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Advertisement Executive: Kevin Lunes

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Software is an all-important part of your computer and we want to make sure we give you the sort of programs you want to use with the machine you own.

And to do that we have to rely on you to a large extent. People have been religiously sending *Personal Computing Today* their programming creations for all manner of machines and every conceivable type of program. But that's not enough. We're not being greedy but we want more!

What we need are quality programs for all the popular micro computers which you own, or have access to. By that we mean the Spectrum, BBC, VIC-20, T199/4a, Atom and Tandy TRS-80. Software coming in for those computers does so regularly and is often to a high standard.

But in past months more computers have seen the light of day and it is those that we would like to see software for. So if you own a Dragon 32, an Oric 1 or a Commodore 64 or any other new machine, and have tried your hand at writing programs for it why not share your experience with your fellow readers. Virtually anything goes from practical programs to use in the home, educational ones to keep the kids seriously occupied, to the zap-pow-wam fast action space games.

If you want to see your program in Personal Computing Today it would help us, and ultimately you to send it to us in the format in which it is published. That means with an introductory text explaining what your program's about and how you came to write it, How it Runs, Hints on Conversion, a clearly produced and unmarked computer print out (whenever possible) and most important of all a tape containing your program. We need that to be able to quickly test programs and find out whether or not they are suitable for publication.

A tape is also important for obtaining a good print out just in case you have been unable to supply one or we don't feel the quality is good enough. It also helps us if you submit your work in typewritten form, not handwritten. Sometimes it takes ages to decipher handwriting and that way mistakes creep in, although we do our best to keep them out.

Turn to one of the programs in this issue to see the way in which our programs are published and to get an idea of the sort of facts to include in them.

And if you do decide to submit your work for possible publication in Personal Computing Today send it to the editor, Personal Computing Today, 145 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 00E and mark clearly on the envelope 'Program Submission'.

Any improvements to programs already published in PCT which you think would be helpful to other readers are only too welcome. We'll try and find space to pass on your hints and tips.

Enjoy reading our May issue of Personal Computing Today and see you all month.

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NEWS

NEXT MONTH

DRAGON



LETTERS

SPECTRUM

SOFTWARE

BBC

SOFTWAR



DEVIEW

DEALER

PERIPHERALS



VICZO

SOFTWARE





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The user-friendly approach is consistent throughout the text not only are program listings clearly shown, but in many cases, a photograph is included to show what the program looks like when actually loaded and run!

All books in the series are £5.95 (incl. postage).

Gower

To be published April–June 1983

Learning to Use the Oric 1 Computer (April) Learning to Use the Commodore 64 Computer (May) Learning to Use the Lynx Computer (June)

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Garry Marshall

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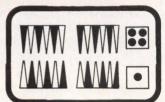
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Mutilating Mutants

Fancy defending a vitally important power station from hoards of mutants? If so grab the controls of this intriguing game just released by Thorn EMI.

Available for the VIC-20 this game is one of the firm's range of Home Computer Software. The object of the game is to fend off the mutant herds invasion. You must keep the mutants at bay while you guide a specially developed weapon, the mutant slayer, into their underground burrows. That's the only way to get rid of the rascals.

In order to stop the mutant herd growing you have to lay a trap inside the burrows. You must lay explosive charges on the mutant queen and her eggs and set light to them before you are eaten by the mutants.

It was written by one of Thorn EMI Video Programmes' own programmers and is a game requiring skill and a lot of patience. Mutant Herd costs £00.00 and is available through

Thorn EMIs retail distributors.

Further games are due out from Thorn EMI including a fast space action game entitled Fourth Encounter and Orc Attack in which you have to defend a castle from an attack by the Orc armies Watch PCT for more news of the games and read our software reviews pages for in-depth studies of programs.

If you are selling software and would like it to be reviewed by PCT's team of reviewers don't hesitate to send us a tape/disc and full instructions for us to do so.

Atari is backing up its VCS market with a super new advanced game playing system.

Called the Atari 5200 it will be on sale in the UK during the summer. The centre comes with 16K memory which means that the games software will resemble the original arcade versions much more closely.

Thirteen cartridges for the 5200 system will be available when the machine is launched. Included in the list are classics like Pac-Man, Space Invaders, Centipede,

Missile Command, Star Raiders and Galaxian.

Coming with the 5200 is a brand new type of joystick. There is also a new keypad with 12 buttons, a start and reset and pause buttons. According to Atari this type of controller gives greater accuracy and manoeuvrability and has the advantage of stopping a game to pause during play.

Later in the year Atari is planning to bring out yet another type of games controller in the form of the Trak-Ball, as well as a special converter which will enable you to play 2600 cartridges on the 5200 VCS system.

Plans are also afoot for an independent firm to supply a keyboard for the Atari VCS which will convert it into a computer. But details of this are currently very sketch. Atari itself is bringing out a new computer later in the year which is aimed at the small businessman. Turn to our special feature in this issue for the low down on the brightest and best VCS games.

New TI Computer

Not content with one home computer on the market Texas Instruments has just launched another.

The TI-99/2 is a £75 computer aimed at beginners. The idea behind the computer is to enable computer novices to learn to program in TI Basic and Basic supported assembly language. Texas anticipates their new computer will be bought as a first computer in the home and help in computer literacy. A spokesman for the firm said Texas sees it as also being like a second television in the home. That is, people will buy it as a learning tool to complement their first computer.

This 16 bit machine is reported to be an extremely fast computer. According to Tl's general manager of the consumer division, Mike Lunch, the TI99/2 is 30 times faster than the ZX81 and seven times faster than the TI99/4A.

Unfortunately, there is no colour facility for the 99/2. Mike Lunch said: 'Putting colour on it would have raised the price considerably. We decided that the market that it is aimed at colour is not critical. It's more important to have all the other computing bits, like peripherals.'

Texas plans to have European versions of the 99/2 on sale some



time between July and September. It will be on sale in America at the end of March. Texas is aiming the 99/2 at the ZX81/Spectrum market and say it is specifically for people who are interested in learning to program rather than for those who want an entertainment based home computer.

Software for the new computer is a fairly complicated business. The 99/4A plug-in cartridge software will not run on the 99/2. The cassette based software will run on the 99/2 and cassette based software currently being written for the 99/2 will be compatible with the 99/4A.

Meanwhile following the successful sales of the 99/4A during the special £50 cash-back offer which ended in January Texas has dropped the price to £150 and it is now selling for £149.95 in most retail outlets. Lunch said that sales increased by 10 times during the offer period demonstrating that the price cut was needed. During that time stocks of the machine had sold out completely by the end of November.

For further details on the new Texas machine contact the firm at Manton Lane, Bedford MK41 7PA or telephone 0234 67466.

Virgin Goes Into Games

Richard Branson the brains behind Virgin Records is turning his hand

to video games.

Realising there is money to be made from computer games
Branson has set up a new firm named Virgin Games. The new venture will concentrate its efforts on producing 'programs with a difference' for computers including the Atari, BBC, VIC-20, Commodore 64, Dragon, Oric 1, Spectrum and TI99/4A. The first of the games should be on sale in Virgin record stores and other retailers by June.

In charge of Virgin Games is Nick Alexander. He has substantial experience in the computer software market having worked for Thorn EMI where he was responsible for launching the firm's Home Computer software range in Britain and America.

Alexander is in the throes of finding good programmers and original games ideas. Why not get



in touch with him if you think your creative flair could be put to good use?

He said of the firm's aims: 'We intend to build a Company that will not just chase the games market but will innovate and help the UK to take a new leading role in computer software as it once did in other entertainment software industries like music, films and

books, fending off another American challenge.'

Virgin's marketing tactic will be 'aggressive' and 'professional' in an attempt to expand the industry's growth from the mail order columns into the High street. Nick Alexander can be reached at Virgin Games, on 01-221 7535 at 61/63 Portobello Road, London W11.

New £98 Colour Computer

A little-known firm Texet is the latest to jump on the under £100 colour computer bandwagon.

The company which began life in the calculator field has just taken its firt steps into the lusher pastures of the computer industry, with the TX8000. Retailing at £98 this Hong Kong developed computer features full colour graphics (eight colours in all) and 8K RAM as standard.

It has been on sale since the end of March and the firm hopes the computer will make inroads into sales of the Sinclair ZX Spectrum. A spokeswoman for Texet described the TX8000 as 'very similar to the Spectrum'. It has a rubber keyboard with 45 automatic repeat keys, 16 predefined single character graphics keys, single keyword or standard typing entry. The programming language used on the TX8000 is

Microsoft Basic, the industry standard.

Expansion is catered for with a £52 board allowing up to 64K memory to be used. You can either plug the computer into a television or a monitor and it has a standard interface for a cassette recorder.



Plans are afoot to bring out a range of compatible firmware in the shape of a couple of joysticks, a printer interface and printer (selling at £129), light pens, cassette recorders and monitors.

To coincide with the launch of the TX8000 Texet has a range of software to run on the machine.

These programs will be aimed at the home user and consist of 30 odd games, educational programs and software in the home finance vein. The software has been written partly in the Far East and partly by British programmers. The TX8000 was developed in Hong Kong by a firm called Video Technology and it is from them that Texet has acquired the sole agents rights for the UK.

Texet has an impressive list of retail chains on their distributor network including John Menzies, Debenhams, Asda, Makro, Fine Fare, House of Frazer, Lewis's and Woolworths. So look in those stores for the TX8000. Specialist computer retailers will also be on the distributor list to make sure there are as many outlets for this new machine as possible.

Watch the pages of PCT for a review of the TX8000.

Oric Software

Following hot on the heels of the Oric 1's production is a brand new firm specialising in the computer's support.

Kenema Associates is now working hard to bring out a range of products for the much-talked about Oric 1 computer. First off on the software side of things is a multipurpose personnel records file. Definately one for the business

user. This program allows you to store vast amounts of information concerning personnel and product details. Kenema has named the price as £15. Another piece of software is the Oric 1 Keyboard Trainer which does exactly as the name suggests as well as a number of games programs, details of which are yet to be released. Kenema was unavailable for comment when PCT went to press.

Another spin-off from the Oric

will be a range of books devoted to the computer and its quirks. The most outrageous of all is the Oric 1 American T-shirt. Yes, this can be yours, if you own an Oric 1 and want to broadcast the fact. Unfortunately, Kenema are keeping their design secret at present so you will have to wait with batied breath to see the latest in computer fashion.

Kenema can be contacted on 0934 21315.

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TOP PROGRAMMES

DICTATOR (Bug Byte) ZX81 Best of the decision £9.00 games, bashing the peasants ANDEROIDS (Fire Fly) Mazes, Lazers, Confusion £5.00 Spectrum THE TIME MACHINE (Digital Fantasia) — Mist — £8.00 Time — Adventure — BBC B SWORDFIGHT AT MIDNIGHT (Fire Fly) 2 player, more difficult than you think £5.00 **BATTLE OF BRITAIN (Micro Simulations)** Speaks for itself — Spectrum £5.50 TIME GATE (Quick Silver) — Sounds good -£6.25 Spectrum DEADWOOD (A & F Software) — Monopoly!! Dragon£6.50

MINIATURE WARGAMES is the newest games magazine on the market. Each issue contains a free game. No. 1 is Hex-A-Noughts, a sci-fi game. The magazine is supported by some of the leading personalities in wargaming and has serious articles on all aspects of the hobby.

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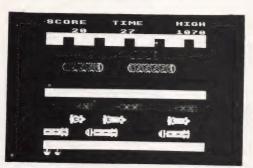
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Spectrum cassette £5.75p

PLANES - BBC 32K

Spectacularly fast arcade style game Options for different speed of game — even the slowest is fast! Many different screens and bonus scores. Graphics are really superb.

Cassette £8.00 Disc £11.50



FROGGER — BBC & SPECTRUM

More arcade action for the BBC (as photo) and Spectrum. Get your frog across the road, use the logs to navigate the river and get home. Beware the crocdile and snake, collecting the lady frog gains valuable bonus points. Beat the time limit or die.

BBC cassette £8.00 Disc £11.50 Spectrum cassette £5.75

ORIC Two adventure games for the ORIC available NOW, Death Satellite and Zodiac. Both will run on the 16K machine. Cassettes at £6.90 per game.

DRAGON Dead wood Monopilise a western town — (1-4 players), set your own time limit. Cassette £6.90. Buccaneers A piratical game again for 1-4 players. Cassette £6.90

ATOM Space Panic £6.90, Death Satellite £6.90, Zodiac £6.90, Cyclon Attack £6.90. Atom Utilikits still available from stock at £18.50

SPECTRUM Crazy Balloons, an excellent game for the 16K machine at £5.75. Specific, stock control/data management system for the 48K machine £10.00

BBC Pharaoh's Tomb, an interactive graphic adventure game for the Model B. Cassette £8.00 Disc £11.50

Tower of Alos Another graphic adventure game — this will run on the A or B machine. Cassette £6.90 Disc £11.50

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Make sure you have your June issue of Personal Computing Today ordered and ready to collect at your newsagents now to catch the action on the best software for your com-

puter.

And a word to all software firms. If you want your software reviewed in any future issue don't hesitate to send us a cassette/disc copy of the program and one of our team of reviewers will get to grips with it, in the nicest possible way. Just send any software in a package marked 'Software Reviews' addressed to the editor at our Charing Cross Road address.

New Texet Computer On Test

Under scrutiny on the hardware side is the new TX8000 £98 colour computer, providing the manufacturer distributor Texet can supply the machine in time to meet our

deadlines. So far it looks good but as everybody knows new computers have a habit of disappearing on the very day they have been promised to you. For more details of this low-cost computer read our News Update for the story. But, if all goes according to

plan a review of this new, attractively priced computer will grace our pages.

The DRAGO

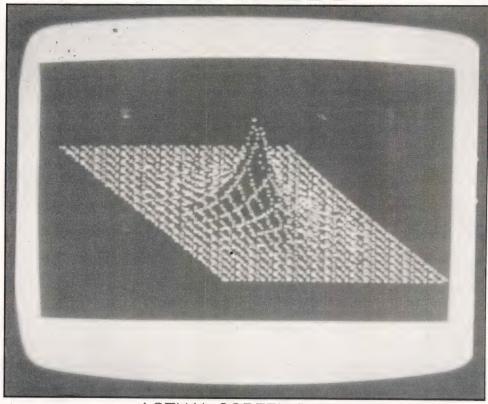
Regulars such as Hardware Factfile, Software Checklist Add-on Action and value for money programs to key in to your computer will also be included in our June issue.

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BRAIN BGGLER

Tone up your grey matter with this game of logic and strategy from Brian Hughes.

Brain Boggler is a game of logic and strategy based on the well known Mastermind board game. The original game is played on a board using coloured pegs to set up and crack a hidden code.

In this version for the Dragon 32, the coloured pegs are represented by coloured squares on the screen, which in turn acts as the board. Your opponent becomes the Dragon. At the start of each game it sets up a random code made up of the coloured squares and you have to systematically break this code.

The program opens with a little tune and a page of instructions telling which colours are available and how to input your guesses. It is wise at this point to make sure that your television is tuned to give you the

best possible resolution of these colours, otherwise you might find it difficult to make out your own codes later on in the game.

When you have completed digesting this information then you can press the space bar to start the game. Having done this you will then be confronted with a blank screen onto which you can type your guesses.

The program accepts the initial letter of the colours as an input by way of an INKEY\$ loop. With each guess the computer responds with a beep and then prints your chosen colour on the screen.

When you have input the four colours that make up your guess, the computer will compare your guess with its stored code and mark you accordingly. The marking is carried out with black

and white squares.

A black square indicates that you have guessed the right colour in the right position, and a white square means that you have guessed a colour correctly, but have it in the wrong position.

You are allowed eight attempts at breaking the codes after which your ears will be assaulted by the Dragon's own victory melody and the elusive code will be revealed. When playing the game you

When playing the game you should remember two main points of strategy:

- (1) That the program will quite happily set up a code where the same colour is used more than once.
- (2) The black and white marking pegs have no positional significance at all.

HOW IT RUNS

110-130	Sets up variables and stores new code in	390	Branches to win routine if answer is correct.
110 100	array C.	400-430	Prints out marks (black or white squares).
160-260	Accepts guesses and branches to routines 1000-7000 to print appropriate coloured	440	Branches to lose routine if end of screen has been reached.
	squares on screen, Line 180 gives a bleep and	460-470	Prints lose screen and plays tune.
	line 170 branches to the marking routine after one line of four guesses has been input.	480-560	Prints end screen and enquires whether another go is required.
270-320	Checks for match between guesses input and	800-830	Prints win screen and plays appropriate tune.
	the code stored in C.	900	Prints title and block rectangle hiding code.
330-370	Sorts array X so that all correct marks (black	8000-8300	Updates marking array if match found.
	squares) print before partially correct marks	9000-9760	Displays opening screen. Plays welcoming
	(white squares).		tune and awaits a key to continue.

HINTS ON CONVERSION

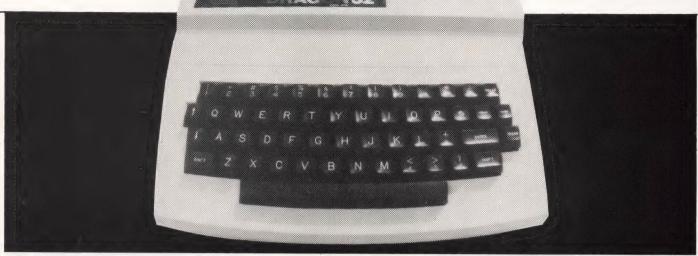
This program uses no special Dragon commands except the PLAY and SOUND functions. These could be easily removed from the program without affecting the overall logic.

The SOUND instruction in lines 180,410,420, simply emits a bleep to accompany the printing of a coloured square. The PLAY instruction in lines 460,820,9750 actually plays a tune; I

have chosen "Colonel Bogey", "Congratulations" and "Here We Are Again".

Apart from these, if your BASIC supports the INKEY\$ function and you can recalculate PRINT @ positions, bearing in mind that the Dragon has a 32 x 16 screen, then you should have no particular problems on conversion.





PROGRAM LISTING

100	DIM $C(4),R(4),X(4):P=0:F=0$	820	PLAY"T11L1GABO3L1.CO2L1G"
110	FOR $I = 1$ TO 4 STEP 1: $C(I) = RND(8)$	830	GOTO 480
120	IF $C(I) = 1$ THEN $C(I) = C(I) + RND(7)$	900	CLS:PRINT @ 10,"brain boggler"
130	NEXT I	910	FOR I = 0 TO 11 STEP 1
140	GOSUB 9000	920	PRINT @ 202 + I, CHR\$(128)
150	CLS	930	PRINT @ 234 + I,CHR\$(128)
160	IF F = 4 THEN GOTO 270	940	PRINT @ 266 + I,CHR\$(128)
170	A\$ = INKEY\$:IF A\$ = "" THEN GOTO 170	950	NEXT I:RETURN
180	SOUND 155.1	1000	PRINT @ P,CHR\$(159):P = P + 4:F = F + 1:
190	IF A\$ = "Y" THEN GOSUB 1000	1000	R(F) = 2:RETURN
200	IF A\$ = "B" THEN GOSUB 2000	2000	PRINT @ P,CHR\$(175): $P = P + 4$: $F = F + 1$:
210	IF A\$ = "R" THEN GOSUB 3000	2000	R(F) = 3:RETURN
220	IF A\$ = "W" THEN GOSUB 4000	3000	` '
230	IF A\$ = "C" THEN GOSUB 5000	3000	PRINT @ P,CHR\$(191):P = P + 4:F = F + 1:
240	IF A\$ = "M" THEN GOSUB 6000	4000	R(F) = 4:RETURN
250		4000	PRINT @,CHR\$(207): $P = P + 4$: $F = F + 1$:
	IF A\$ = "O" THEN GOSUB 7000	5000	R(F) = 5:RETURN
260	GOTO 160	5000	PRINT @ P,CHR (223) :P = P + 4:F = F + 1:
270	P = P + 3:Z = 0:FOR I = 1 TO 4 STEP		R(F) = 6:RETURN
200	1:X(I) = 9:NEXT I	6000	PRINT @ P,CHR (239) :P = P + 4:F = F + 1:R(F)
280	FOR $I = 1$ TO 4 STEP 1:Q = 0		= 7:RETURN
290	FOR J = 1 TO 4 STEP 1	7000	PRINT @ P,CHR (255) :P = P + 4:F = F + 1:
300	IF $C(I) = R(J)$ THEN GOSUB 8000		R(F) = 8:RETURN
310	NEXT J	8000	Z = Z + 1:Q = Q + 1
320	NEXT I	8100	IF $Q > 1$ THEN $Z = Z - 1$:IF $X(Z) = 1$ THEN GOTO
330	IN = 0:FOR $I = 1$ TO 3 STEP 1		8300
340	M = W + 1	8200	IF $I = J$ THEN $X(Z) = 1$ ELSE $X(Z) = 2$
350	IF $X(I) > X(I + 1)$ THEN $IN = 1$:	8300	RETURN
	Y = X(I + 1):X(I + 1) = X(I):X(I) = Y	9000	GOSUB 900
360	NEXT I	9100	PRINT @ 34,"THERE ARE 4
370	IF IN = 1 THEN GOTO 330		COLOURED SQUARES"
380	T = Q:FOR I = 1 TO 4 STEP 1:T = T + X(I):NEXT I	9200	PRINT @ 66,"HIDDEN BELOW"
390	IF T = 4 THEN GOTO 800	9300	PRINT @ 98,"CAN YOU GUESS WHAT THEY
400	FOR I = 1 TO 4 STEP 1		ARE?"
410	IF $X(I) = 1$ THEN PRINT @ P,CHR\$(128): SOUND	9400	PRINT @ 130,"POSSIBLE COLOURS ARE:-
	220,1		RED,CYAN"
420	IF X(I) = 2 THEN PRINT @ P,CHR\$(207): SOUND	9500	PRINT @ 160,"BLUE, YELLOW, ORANGE,
	150,1		MAGENTA, WHITE"
430	P = P + 4: NEXT I	9600	PRINT · 288,"TAKE A GUESS AT A COLOUR
440	IF $P > = 448$ THEN GOTO 460		SIMPLY"
450	P = P + 29: $F = 0$: GOTO 160	9700	PRINT @ 320,"BY PRESSING IT'S
460	GOSUB 900:PLAY"T6L2CO1L2.AP4L4AB-	2.00	INITIAL LETTER"
	O2CL2O3AAO2F"	9710	PRINT @ 359," dragon's responses"
470	PRINT @ 75,"bad luck"	9720	PRINT @ 418,CHR\$(207);" = RIGHT
480	PRINT @105,"the answer is"	J. 20	COLOUR; WRONG POSITION"
490	FOR I = 0 TO 3 STEP 1	9730	PRINT @ 386, CHR\$(128);" = RIGHT COLOUR
500	S = 143 + (C(I + 1) - 1) *16	2.30	AND POSITION"
510	PRINT @ 235 + (I *3), CHR\$(128)	9740	PRINT @ 450,"press the spacebar to start"
540	PRINT @ 450," would you like another go?"	9750	PLAY"T2OL1.GL2EL1.DL2EO1L1
550	A\$ = INKEY\$:IF A\$ = "" THEN GOTO 550	7700	AP255O3L1.GL2EL1.DO2L2EO1L1
560	IF A\$ = "Y" THEN RUN ELSE CLS:END		GP85O2L1.CDEDO1L2CBAL1.AL2B
800	GOSUB 900		L1C"
810	PRINT @ 73," congratulations"	9760	IF INKEY\$ = "" THEN GOTO 9760 ELSE RETURN
020	w /o, congratulations	7700	II IIIII GOTO 9/00 ELSE KETUKN

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ZX81

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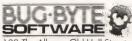
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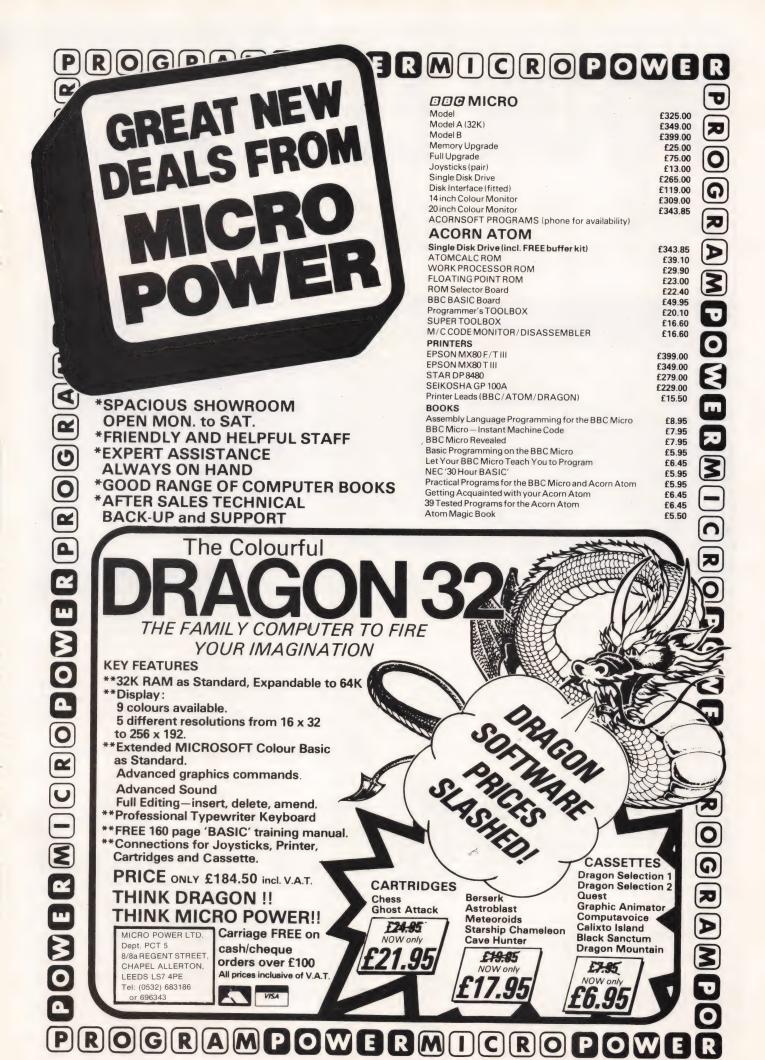
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Dear Sir

Congratulations on producing a great magazine. I would be most pleased if you could supply me with a list of where I could get the new Oric 1 from around the Birmingham area.

Yours faithfully Kevin Grigg

The best thing for you to do is contact Oric itself. They will provide you with the information you require and can be contacted on 0990 27641. We receive many similar letters to Kevin's but I am afraid it is impossible for us to answer such requests. If you have similar queries it is much better to get in touch directly with the manufacturer concerned as they have up-to-the minute information on their dealers and distributors.

Dear Sir

May I ask for the hospitality of your columns to pass on to your readers news of two user groups which are

based in the Nottingham area.

First: the TRS-80/Genie Users Group of Nottingham, which has been running as a thriving society here for nearly three years, will be very happy to meet users in the area at Wilford Moderns Rugby Club House at any forthcoming meeting. Meetings are generally held on the

club magazine, LPRINT is published fairly regularly. For further information please telephone or send an SAE to the undersigned or the Club chairman, Marc Leduc Marcos Software, 30 Waterloo Road, Nottingham. Telephone: Nottingham 225165.

Second: the National Colour Genie User's group has now been formed, with Marc Leduc as chairman. Full particulars and a sample copy of the club magazine will be sent to anyone sending me a largeish SAE.

With many thanks

Geoffrey Hillier (5a Gregory Street, Lenton, Nottingham NG7 2LR.)

Dear Sir

I am writing in the hope that you will print my experiences. So that other readers will not fall into the same trap as me.

I own a BBC Micro, and ordered a 'Beebstick' joystick. I quite naturally assumed that it could be used for playing different commercially available games. I have contacted every software house, that I could find and the only one that makes any workable programs for this joystick is A + F Software, which sells two games.

I am personally very disappointed and I would like to make it clear to other readers, that it cannot be used for most games. I am sure that most people do not realise this. By warning people it may save them from suffering

the same disappointment as me.

Yours sincerely

P Wilson

London W11

Dear Sir

After reading so many letters in various computer magazines complaining about the service people have received from manufacturers and dealers, I thought you might like to hear some praise for a change.

I bought one of the first Commodore VIC-20 computers to enter Britain in October 1981 and had no trouble with it at all until it was almost a year old when it

developed a minor fault.

I contacted my dealer (Sigma Systems of Cardiff) who reported the fault to Commodore UK and within a few weeks, Commodore wrote to me offering me a replacement machine. This was brought to the dealer on the same delivery van which collected my old machine. As a bonus, my new computer was protected by a further one year's warranty!

I feel that service from a computer firm to this high standard is all too rare and deserves praise in your pages.

Yours faithfully John Ryden Mid Glamorgan

Dear Editor

In the wake of general criticisms of the new wave of British computers (re: delivery times/after sales service/customer relations etc) may I throw my own experience into the discussion.

I recently decided to buy a new micro and was interested in the new Jupiter Ace. I wrote to Jupiter Cantab with a few questions concerning the Forth language and got a comprehensive reply. Before Christmas I set up a 'computer fund' and on 27 December placed my order for the Jupiter Ace. If my office experience was anything to go by then the sales department received my order on the 4 January 1983. My Ace arrived eight days later (far in advance of the expected delivery period of 28 days) along with an unexpected demo tape.

A day later a letter arrived with answers to more questions I enclosed with my order. This letter was not 'mass-produced' but directly answered my queries, and

was hand-written by Mr Steve Vickers.

The computer had no system faults, and I had no trouble loading the cassette. The manual (also written by Mr Vickers) was very entertaining and on that strength alone it has been difficult to put down.

Yours faithfully Colin Miller Eastleigh Dear PCT

I am a young schoolboy and at the moment do not own a computer. I enjoy reading your magazine and think it is for those who look for quality in their literature. I think PCT is more professionally planned and set out than other magazine.

However, I feel more time and research should be spent on Micro Factfile, and the software cheeklists should be researched and updated more frequently. Often software advertised in your magazine does not appear in your checklists. I especially like your reviews on software, and also computers, and would like to see a review on the new Binatone computer in a future issue.

Yours faithfully

R Marsh

Editor's reply: Thanks for your comments - readers' views are always taken very seriously.

Dear Sirs

I read with interest you article 'Software Reviews'. The extra description and comments to those published elsewhere give a much better appreciation of the programs, their shortcomings and uses.

Also the standardised 'Ratings Table' gives ease of comparison between programs. So many other ratings tables vary the headings from review to review and make

meaningful comparisons impossible.

I have recently taken delivery of a Commodore 64 which I use with a C2N tape player. So far I have found it a very good machine. Of course the lack of software is hampering my experiencing its full capabilities but I am looking forward to them shortly becoming available.

I thought that with the '64' being such a new machine you may not have engaged anyone to review forthcoming programs. If you intend to review 64 software, as and when it becomes available, I would be very pleased to offer any assistance and service.

Thanks for a good magazine.

Yours faithfully M Kendrick

Berkswell

Thanks very much for your offer to review the said software, I am only too pleased to add you name to our review team. If anyone else is interested don't hesitate to let me know.





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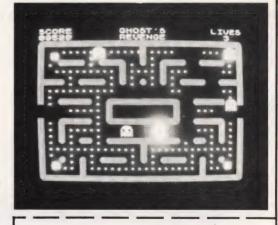
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INVISIBLE MAZE

This short maze game, written to put the newly arrived spectrum through its paces, reveals a small problem in testing information on the screen. Invisibility was indeed the problem, but not in the way I had anticipated.



The game is straightforward enough. There is treasure in a strongroom at the centre of the maze together with the guardian of the treasure, who moves around a lot and generally gets in the way of anyone approaching the strongroom. The player starts at the maze entrance, and it is necessary for him to gain access to the treasure in as few moves as possible. To make this more difficult, the walls of the maze are invisible! The roaming guardian will give some clue as to the direction and extent of the passageways, but don't bump into him, since he will squash you. Movement of the player's piece is controlled by the cursor keys (unshifted).

Moving The Characters

Like the ZX80 and ZX81, the Spectrum has a screen made up of 704 character squares, with top left square designated 0,0; the Row coordinate is given first, followed by the Column coordinate. The PRINT AT r,c statement will place a character or a graphic at the coordinates specified, while the SCREEN\$ (r,c) function will report back with the single byte string found at the specified coordinate. In the program, the guardian

moves automatically along the maze pathways, and reference to line 900 onwards shows the code for this. R1 and C1 hold the row and column coordinates. Variable A holds the direction of travel; 0,3,6,9 for North, East, South, West respectively. His present position is saved temporarily in variables SR and SC, and his new position is calculated (Lines 910-913). Is his new position valid? There might be a wall there, so the screen must be tested at this position for any character which is not a pathway. The pathway is the space character, code 32, and so in BASIC this becomes:—

IF SCREEN\$ (R1,C1) = " THEN PRINT...guardian at R1,C1 and a space at SR,SC and jump out of move guardian routine.

Unfortunately this will not work. In the original version of this program the invisible wall was contructed from graphic spaces (Code 128©, but SCREEN\$() reports these as ordinary spaces and CODE(SCREEN\$()) reports with 32. In order to find out exactly what was happening this short program was run:

- 5 REM SCREEN\$ TEST
- 10 PAPER 7: INK 0: CLS
- 15 FOR R = 0 TO 7: READ N: POKE USR "A" + R,N: NEXT R
- 20 FOR N = 32 TO 164: PRINT
 AT 7,0; "CODE......";N;" ";
 AT 9,0; "CHARACTER...";CHR\$(N);
 AT 11,0; "SCREEN\$.....";SCREEN\$(9,15));
 AT 13,0; "CODE(SCREEN\$).
 ";CODE(SCREEN\$(9,15));
 "":PAUSE 0: NEXT N
- 30 DATA 0,24,126,24,24,36,102,0

The results are rather sad. All the chunky graphics and the user-definable graphics report a null string in response to SCREEN\$() and code 0 in response to CODE(SCREEN\$()). The program would not distinguish between a pathway (code 32) and a solid wall (code 143).

PEEK The Display File?

The layout of the Spectrum screen memory map is organised quite differently from that of the ZX80/81. This area of memory, known as the display file, is 6144 bytes in length. It is bit-mapped, which means that bits

within the bytes are set to 1 or 0 according to whether the associated pixel on the screen is to be illuminated or not. The resolution of the Spectrum screen is 256 on the X axis and 176 on the Y axis, which totals 45056 pixels. There are a further 4096 pixels on the botton two lines of the screen, but these are not generally intended for use by the users. The total number of pixels (and bits) is therefore 49152, which when divided by 8 gives the 6144 byte display file. Each character square on the screen is made up of 64 pixels, and so it takes 8 bytes of display file to store one character on the screen. To make matters even more complicated, these 8 bytes are not to be found in continuous order, but interleaved throughout the display file. Page 164 of the Spectrum manual mentions this briefly, in passing, as if it were of no concern to the user. PEEKing this display file is possible, but is rather a slow process.

The Problem Solved

Line 915 shows solution to the problem. Every

character square on the screen has its own byte in memory to store the colour attributes assigned to that square. If the attributes of the maze pathway differ from the attributes of the wall, then we may distinguish between them. The Spectrum function ATTR(r,c) returns with the code for the attribute of the particular square under investigation. In the final version of the program, the invisible walls are spaces (code 32) and the solid walls are inverse spaces (code 143). The pathways are also spaces, but the attribute of the wall (invisible or otherwise) is 58, representing green ink on white paper, while the attribute of the pathway is 63, representing white ink on white paper.

The CODE (SCREEN()) function is still useful. On line 917 it tests the screen to see if the player's character (code 0) is present. Remember though, that 35 different characters will all return code 0, so that it must be used with care. One final note on the game. If any player gets fed up trying to negotiate a maze with an invisible wall, try typing in CHEAT: it works wonders!

PROGRAM LISTING

	PROGRAI		JIMU
5	REM THE INVISIBLE MAZE	429	IF K\$<"5" OR K\$>"8" OR K\$ = "" THEN GO TO 420
6	REM R. SARGENT AUG 1982	430	LET $M = M + 1$: PRINT AT 21,29; INK 0;M
10	LET $A = 6$: LET $Z = 0$: LET $P = 1$: LET $M = 0$	431	IF R2 = 10 AND C2 = 15 THEN PRINT AT 10.15:CHR\$
12	POKE 23561,255: POKE 23562,255		144;AT 11,15;" ": GO TO 460: REM WON
50	BORDER 6: PAPER 7: INK 7: cls	432	IF R2 = 7 AND (C2 = 14 OR C2 = 15 OR C2 = 16) THEN
102	DATA 0,0,31,2,10,19,2,21,24,3,5,6,3,24,25,4,16,17,5,3,4,		PRINT AT 8.15; INK 2; "■"
	5,9,14,5,17,18,5,24,25,7,3,4,7,9,11,7,17,18,7,20,22,7,24,	433	IF ATTR $(R2,C2) = 63$ THEN PRINT AT R2,C2; INK
	25,8,18,19,9,4,5,12,16,22,12,24,25,14,10,11,14,16,20,		0 + CHR\$ 144: PRINT AT SR,SC;" ": GO TO 420
	14,28,30,16,9,14,16,16,20,17,2,4,17,9,14,17,17,19,19,2,	434	IF CODE (SCREEN\$ (R2,C2)) = 0 THEN GO TO 480: REM
	31,13, 13,14,11,19,20,14,24,25,0,0,99		LOST
104	DATA 0,0,19,2,2,5,7,2,11,13,2,16,5,6,16,2,7,5,16,7,	436	LET C2 = SC: LET R2 = SR: PRINT AT R2,C2; INK 0;CHR\$
	17,12,9,13,13,10,14,9,11,11,7,18,8,8,19,9,9,21,11,7,22,11,		144: GO TO 420
	1,27,5,7,27,10,16,27,18,1,29,2,4,29,8,10,29,17,1,31,18,	459	REM WON
	12,4,13,16,23,17,15,24,16,16,25,17,8,24,9,0,0,99	460	PRINT; INK 0;AT 20,3; "YOU HAVE GAINED THE
106	DATA 2,4,4,4,11,4,14,4,19,4,21,5,20,5,22,7,13,8,9,		TREASURE";AT 21,3;"Will you try again? Y/N "
	8, 12, 9, 19, 9, 25, 10, 3, 10, 9, 11, 5, 12, 12, 12, 17, 14, 22, 15, 4, 16,	461	PRINT; INK 0; FLASH 1;AT R2,C2;CHR\$ 144: PAUSE
	22,2,8,13,3,14,14,11,25,0,99		200: GO TO 9998
107	DATA 0,24,126,24,24,36,102,0,255,231,195,195,195,	479	REM LOST
	231,195,255	480	PRINT; INK 0;AT 20,3; "YOU HAVE BEEN EATEN!
200	PRINT; INK 0; AT 20,3; "Welcome to the invisible maze";		";AT 21,3;"Will you try again? Y/N "; FLASH 1;AT
001	At 21,3; "Please wait."		R1,C1;CHR\$ 144;AT R2,C2;CHR\$ 144: PAUSE 200:
201	LET I = 4: LET W = 32: GO SUB 515		PRINT; FLASH 0; INK 0;AT R2,C2;" ";AT R1,C1;CHR\$
202	PRINT AT 20,2; INK 4; "■"; AT 21,0; "■■"; AT 20,0;		144: GO TO 9998
000	"■"; AT 20,1; INK 0; CHR\$ 144	514	REM MAZE DRAWER SUB-R
209	FOR C = 144 TO 145	515	RESTORE 100
210	FOR N = 0 TO 7: READ R: POKE USR CHR\$ (C) + N,R:	518	READ R,S,F: IF F = 99 THEN GO TO 540
401	NEXT N: NEXT C PRINT PAPER 7; INK 2;AT 9,14; "■"; AT 9, 16; "■"; AT	520	FOR C = S TO F: PRINT AT R,C;INK I;CHR\$ W: NEXT C:
401	10,13+;"■";AT 10,16; "■■";AT 11,14; "■";AT	540	GO TO 518 READ S.C.F: IF F = 99 THEN GO TO 560
	11,16;" * 'Al 10,10; * * 'Al 11,14; * * 'Al 11,14;	550	FOR R = S TO F: PRINT AT R,C;INK I;CHR\$ W: NEXT R:
402	PRINT AT 10,15; INK 0; CHR\$ 144 : PRINT AT 10,14; INK	330	GO TO 540
402	2; CHR\$ 145 :LET R1 = 10: LET C1 = 15	560	READ R.C: IF C = 99 THEN RETURN
406	PRINT; INK 0; AT 21,3;"Press any key to continue.":	565	PRINT AT R.C.: INK I:CHR\$ W: GO TO 560
400	PAUSE 0	900	REM MOVE GUARDIAN SUB-R
408	PRINT AT 20,3; INK 0;"The guardian of the treasure ";AT	907	LET SR = R1: LET SC = C1
100	21,3;" is about to take exercise.": PAUSE 100	910	IF A = 0 THEN LET R1 = R1 - 1
410	LET I = 4: LET W = 32: LET P = 1: GO SUB 9050	911	IF A = 3 THEN LET C1 = C1 + 1
412	PRINT; INK 0; AT 20,3; "You may now attempt to	912	IF A = 6 THEN LET R1 = R1 + 1
	rescue";AT 21,3;" the treasure. Moves made 0":BEEP 4,4	913	IF A = 9 THEN LET C1 = C1 – 1
413	LET R2 = 20: LET C2 = 1: LET P = 1: LET A = 6	915	IF ATTR $(R1,C1) = 63$ THEN PRINT AT $SR,SC;''$ ";AT
420	GO SUB 900		R1,C1; INK 0; CHR\$ 144: PAUSE P: RETURN
421	IF $Z = 2$ THEN GO TO 480	917	IF CODE (SCREEN\$ $(R1,C1)$) = 0 THEN LET Z = 2: PRINT
422	LET $SC = C2$: LET $SR = R2$		AT SR,SC;" ":RETURN
423	LET K \$ = INKEY\$: IF K \$ = "C" OR K \$ = "c" THEN LET	918	LET C1 = SC: LET R1 = SR
	$I = 4$: LET $W = 143$:PRINT; INK 4;AT 18,14;" \blacksquare ";AT	920	IF A = 9 THEN LET A = 0: GO TO 907
	18,7;" ■";AT 5,8;" ■": GO SUB 515	922	LET A = A + 3: GO TO 907
424	IF K\$ = "0" THEN GO TO 9999	9997	REM TIDY UP AND END
425	IF K\$ = "5" THEN LET C2 = C2 - 1	9998	PAUSE 0: IF INKEY\$ = "Y" OR INKEY\$ = "y" THEN
426	IF K\$ = "6" THEN LET R2 = R2 + 1	0000	RESTORE 100: GO TO 5
427	IF K\$ = "7" THEN LET R2 = R2 - 1	9999	POKE 23561,35: POKE 23562,5: BORDER 7: PAPER 7:
428	IF K \$ = "8" THEN LET $C2 = C2 + 1$		INK 0: CLS

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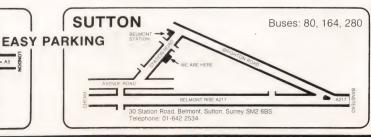
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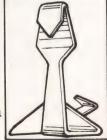
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SOFTWARE

GHTS

A puzzling game based on a chess board is brought to you by Freda Perrow.



David Nixon, the magician, once performed a trick similar to the puzzle which forms the basis of this article.

He started by placing a Knight at a random position on a normal chess board and by moving the Knight in the normal chess manner managed to visit every position on the board without ever retracing his steps. He used no tricks and it is possible to do without being a member of the Magic Circle!

The puzzle as it is presented here has both error checking for illegal moves and also duplication of moves — so you can't cheat. I have not yet managed to fill all the squares on the board but then the fun would be over wouldn't it?

A note for newcomers on how the Knights are constructed may be appreciated.

First three user defined characters are defined Viz.. CHR\$232/233/231 for the left facing knight (KNIGHTL\$) or CHR\$229/230/231 for the right facing knight (KNIGHR\$).

Next the cursor must be moved around to the correct positions using the following control codes.

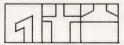
CHR\$ 8 ←

CHR\$9→ CHR\$11↑

CHR\$10 ↓

If we just string the three

defined characters together we would end up with a knight which looks like this.



What we have to do is . . . after the first CHR\$ we move the cursor back one and down one and then after the 2nd CHR\$ we move the cursor back one and down one. These actions are done using CHR\$8 ← and CHR\$ 10 ↓ respectively. Thus the left facing knight is...

KNIGHL\$ = CHR\$232 + CHR\$8 + CHR\$10 + CHR\$233

+ CHR\$8 + CHR\$10 + CHR\$231 and the right facing knight is . . .

KNIGHTR\$ = CHR\$229 + CHR\$8 + CHR\$10 + CHR\$230 + CHR\$8 + CHR\$10 + CHR\$231

More experienced readers may care to look more closely at DEFPROCCCHECK. This is the procedure for checking the colour of the square which you intend to move to and looks a bit longwinded. The reader may ponder on the fact that the Knight always moves onto the opposite colour to the one it is already on, and hence as long as the starting colour is known the rest of the moves can be 'clocked' between black and white. The INT function may be a clue to another way of doing it. However this is just food for thought as the program works well as it is.

Beginners Tips

The tips given below may be of use to the newcomer to the micro fraternity in particular BEEB owners.

Most micro owners find it very comforting whilst loading to hear that there is actually something coming out of the cassette recorder. What is required is a low-level output from the loud-speaker whilst maintaining the high level output required by the micro. If you are using the 3.5mm jack socket of your cassette it is very easy to achieve this using just one resistor.

When you plug in the jack socket you open a set of contacts in the cassette which mutes the internal loudspeaker. By connecting a resistor of about 1000 ohms across these contacts (as shown in figure 1) reduced volume from the L.S. can be obtained. The size of the resistor determines the volume. The higher it is the lower the volume and visa versa.



Which Recorder?

An additional note well worth mentioning is that many sources have recommended the Boots CR 325 cassette recorder for use with the BBC micro. I agree that this is an ideal unit but a note for the unwary... If you use two separate metal sleeved jack plugs (A 2.5mm for the remote motor control and a 3.5mm for the record) ensure that the two cases do not touch as this will cause the internal cassette fuse to blow.

There are two ways round this problem. The first is to use plastic sleeved jack plugs; the second is to obtain a plastic moulded plug which in fact has the two plugs moulded in one sleeve. I obtained this from an old microphone which had a remote stop/start facility.

The second tip is to ease checking of a program just entered. Rather than have a full screen of

printed list, why not just have 2/3 of the lines at a time displayed? Try typing in the following:— *KEYO "MODE 4:

VDU28,0,31,39,29:VDU14 M" The lines can then be scrolled using the shift key as normal.

Take It Or Leave It

The next two ideas are take it or leave it ideas — you either like them or you hate them. You decide. First a rather crude volume control for the BEEB.. A piece of thin card (approx.2" × 11/4") is slipped under the perspex strip and slid over the slots to reduce the volume and moved to the right to give normal output. It actually has an effect, so go on, give it a try — you've nothing to lose (and it won't invalidate the guarantee).

My final tip before I go is for poor typers like myself. When I am typing out a program from a magazine I am always losing my place, typing in things twice, missing bits out etc. I then tried reading the program out loud and recording it on the cassette at my own typing speed. It was then easy to let the recorder play it back whilst typing the program into the micro.

I found two advantages. The first being that you couldn't let up on your typing or you got left behind and had to stop the recorder, and the second advantage was that far fewer errors crept into the program.

Anyway if you like the idea give it a try by typing in "KNIGHTS".

HOW IT RUNS

Lines 50-170	Main body of the program.	Line 450	Sets up the colour pallette.
Line 50	Sets the highest score to zero for first try.	Lines 460-480	See text. Sets up the Knights.
Line 60	Selects graphics mode 1 and turns off flashing	Lines 500-640	DEFPROCBOARD
	cursor.	Lines 510-570	Draws out the chess board.
Line 80	Sets dimension of an 8×8 array for board.	Lines 570-590	Prints out figures 1 to 8 on bottom and RHS of
Line 90	Sets the colours; displays the instructions.		board.
Line 100	Traps errors and ends game if 'ESCAPE' is	Lines 660-710	DEFPROCCALCULATE
	pressed.	Line 670	Calculates print position of the Knight.
Line 110	Calls procedure to draw the board and positions	Line 680	Checks what colour square next move is.
	Knight, for first move, after checking if move is	Line 690	Sets position X,Y in array to 1 (for colour check).
	legal.	Line 700	Prints Knight facing right.
Lines 120-150	Repeats Knight's movements until 64 moves have	Lines 730-790	DEFPROCSHIFT
	been made.	Line 740	Stores Knight's last position. Changes colour.
Line 160	Displays finish message.	Line 750	Requests input for Knight's next move.
Line 170	Resets micro to default mode.	Line 760	Checks for legal move.
Lines 190-320	DEFPROCINSTRUCTIONS	Lines 770-780	Prints flashing Knight on correct colour
Line 2 00	Sets background(paper) colour to blue and		background.
	print(ink) white.	Lines 810-840	DEFPROCCCHECK: Checks colour of square
Lines 2 10- 2 60	Prints out instructions.		Knight wants to move to.
Line 270	Changes colour of print to blue/yellow.	Lines 860-940	DEFPROCPLACE; Prints screen information and
Line 280	Prints Knight character.		requests input move. Checks if you've been there
Line 300	Waits 30 seconds or until space bar is pressed.		before (CHEAT!)
Line 310	Changes colour of background to black and print	Lines 960-990	DEFPROCSTORE; Displays score.
	to white.	Line 1010	DEFPROCDONE: Prints finished message, plays
Lines 340-450	DEFPROCSETUP		tune and asks if another try required.
Lines 350-440	Sets up user-defined shapes.		

KNIGHTS

HINTS ON CONVERSION

Pre defined shapes could be used in place of the knights. Use GO SUBS / RETURN in place of procedures. BBC format on mode 1 is 40×32 characters; four colours.

A% HIGH SCORE
SF SQUARES FILLED (CURRENT SCORE)
X1 Y1 Tab position for printing of the Knights.
X Y Required positions on the 8 × 8 board.
C COLOUR OF SQUARE ON BOARD.

B% ARRAY FOR BOARD.



PROGRAM LISTING

10 REM ******KNIGHTS*****	430 VDU23, 232, 0, 0, 0, 0, 800, 806, 81F,	ANDY=2 ORX=6ANDY=2 ORX=8ANDY=2 ORX=1
20 REM ****FREDA PERROW****	8.77	ANDY=3 ORX=3ANDY=3 ORX=5ANDY=3 ORX=7
30 REM *TERRICOMS SOFTWARE**	440 VDU23; 233, %EE, %E7, %OE, &1C, %EE,	ANDY=3 ORX=2ANDY=4 ORX=4ANDY=4 ORX=6
40 REM ***COPYRIGHT(1983)***	%18, %3C, %3C	ANDY=4 ORX=8ANDY=4THEN C=131: ENDPROC
50 A%=0	450 VDU19, 1, 12, 0, 0, 0, 19, 2, 4, 0, 0, 0	ELSEC=128
60 MODE1: VDU23; 8202; 0; 0; 0; : SF=1	460 KNIGHTR\$=CHR\$229+CHR\$8+CHR\$10+	830 IF X=1ANDY=5 ORX=3ANDY=5 ORX=5
70 CLEAR	CHR\$230+CHR\$8+CHR\$10+CHR\$231	ANDY=5 ORX=7ANDY=5 ORX=2ANDY=6 ORX=4
80 DIM B(8,8)		ANDY=6 ORX=6ANDY=6 ORX=8ANDY=6 ORX=1
90 PROCSETUP: PROCINSTRUCTIONS		ANDY=7 ORX=3ANDY=7 ORX=5ANDY=7 ORX=7
100 ON FRROR GOTO 1020	CHR\$233+CHR\$8+CHR\$10+CHR\$231	ANDY=7 ORX=3ANDY=8 ORX=4ANDY=8 ORX=6
	480 ENDPROC	ANDY=8 ORX=8ANDY=8THEN C=131:ELSEC=1
110 PROCBOARD: PROCSTART: PROCCALCUL	490 ::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::	
ATE		28
120 REPEAT	500 DEFPROCBOARD	840 ENDPROC
130 PROCSHIFT: PROCCALCULATE	510 A\$=STRING\$(3,CHR\$224):B\$=" "	850 ::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::
140 SF=SF+1: PROCSCORE	5/20 CLS: PRINT: FOR A=1T04: FOR B=1T0	
150 UNTIL SF=64	3	860 DEFPROCPLACE
160 PROCDONE	530 PRINTCHR\$(225); A\$; B\$; A\$; B\$; A\$;	870 PRINTTAB(28,4)"PRESS ESCAPE"TA
170 MODET: END	B\$; A\$; B\$; CHR\$(226): NEXTB	B(29,7)"WHEN BEAT!"
180 ::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::	540 FORD=1 TO 3	880 PRINTTAB(32,12)"-DOWN"TAB(32,1
:::	550 PRINTCHR\$(225); B\$; A\$; B\$; A\$; B\$;	
190 DEFPROCINSTRUCTIONS	A\$; B\$; A\$; CHR\$(226): NEXTD: NEXTA	890 PRINTTAB(28,18)"THE HIGHEST"
200 COLOUR3: COLOUR130: CLS	560 PRINT" "; STRING\$(24, CHR\$227)	900 PRINTTAB(28,20)"SCORE IS "; A%
210 PRINTTAB(1,2)"T E R R 1 C U M	570 PRINTTAB(1,0); STRING\$(24, CHR\$2	910 X=GET: PRINTTAB(30,12)SPC(1): PR
S SOFTWARE (C)"	28)	INTTAB(30,14)SPC(1): PRINTTAB(30,16)S
220 FRINTTAB(1,3)"	580 FOR I=0 TO 7: PRINTTAB(1*3+2, 26	PC(9): IF X<490R X>56 THEN SOUND 2,-1
); I+1: NEXT I	5, 150, 5: GOTO 910 ELSE X=X-48: PRINTY
230 PRINTTAB(12,6)"K N I G H T S"	590 FORI=0 TO 7: PRINTTAB(26, I*3+2)	
240 PRINTTAB(12,8)"========"	; I+1; : NEXTI	920 Y=GET: 1F YC49 OR YD56 THEN SC
250 PRINTTAB(5, 11) "THE IDEA OF THI	600 ENDPROC	UND 2,-15,150,5:60T0 910ELSE Y=Y-48:
S PUZZLE IS TO FILL"//"ALL THE SQUAR	610DEFPROCSTART	PRINTTAB(30,14); Y: VDU7
ES <both and="" black="" white="">" // "WITH K</both>	620PRINTTAB(0,28); "WHERE WOULD YOU	
NIGHTS. THEY CAN MOVE AS IN CHESS" //		50, 5: PRINTTAB(30, 16) "OCCUPIED ": GOTO
"YOU MUST NOT GO BACK ONTO A SQUARE	AL POSITION FIRST. "	910
THAT" YOU HAVE ALREADY VISITED THA	630 PROCPLACE	940 ENDPROC
TS CHEATING!"///	640 ENDPROC	950 ::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::
260 PRINT" TO START THE PUZZLE YOU	650	
MAY PLACE THE" KNIGHT ANY-WHE		960 DEFPROCSCORE
RE ON THE BOARD. "	660 DEFPROCCALCULATE	970 COLOUR3: COLOUR128
270 COLOUR 1	670 X1=(Y-1)*3+2: Y1=(X-1)*3+1	980 PRINTTAB(0,30); "SQUARES FILLEI
280 PRINTTAB(7,6); KNIGHTR\$TAB(30,6	680 COLOUR 1: PROCCCHECK: COLOURC	= "; SF; " SQUARES LEFT = "; 64-SF
); KNIGHTL\$	690 B(X,Y)=1	990 ENDPROC
	700 PRINTTAB(X1,Y1); KNIGHTR\$	
290 PRINTTAB(7,29) "PRESS SPACE-BAR		1000 ::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::
TO START. "	710 ENDPROC	1010 DUEDDOCDONE
300 W=INKEY(3000)	720 ::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::	1010 DEFPROCDONE
310 COLOUR128: COLOUR3: CLG	730 DEFPROCSHIFT	1020 COLOUR 1
320 ENDPROC		1030 IF SF=64 PRINTTAB(0,28); "WELL
330 :::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::	740 XX=X: YY=Y: COLOUR128: COLOUR3	DONE!! WOULD YOU LIKE TO TRY AGAIN?!
::	750 PROCPLACE	ELSE PRINTTAB(0,28); "OH WELL!! WOUL
340 DEFIROCSETUP	760 1FX=XX+2 AND Y=YY+1 OR X=XX+2	D YOU LIKE TO TRY AGAIN?"
350 VDU23, 224, 255, 255, 255, 255, 255,	AND Y=YY-1 OR X=XX-2 AND Y=YY+1 OR X	1040 IF SFDA% THEN A%=SF
255, 255, 255	=XX-2 AND Y=YY-1 OR X=XX+1 AND Y=YY+	
360 VDU23, 225, &01, &01, &01, &01, &01,	2 OR X=XX-1 AND Y=YY+2 OR X=XX+1 AND	
&01, &01, &01	Y=YY-2 OR X=XX-1 AND Y=YY-2 THEN770	
370 VDU23, 226, &CO, &CO, &CO, &CO, &CO,	ELSE SOUND2, -15, 150, 5; PRINTTAB(30, 1	2070 114 00114
&CO, &CO, &CO	6) "TRY-AGAIN": G0T0750	1080 IF As="Y" OR As="y" THEN GOTO
380 VDU23,227,&FF,0,0,0,0,0,0,0	770 COLOUR2: COLOURC	70
390 VBU23,228,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,%FF	780 PRINTTAB(X1, Y1); KNIGH)L\$	1090 IF As="N" OR As="n" THEN GOTO
400 VDU23, 229, 0, 0, 0, 0, 830, 860, 8F8,	790 ENDPROC	170 ELSE 1070
&EE	800 :::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::	1100 ::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::
410 VDU23,230,&FF,&E7,&70,&38,&FF,		::::
&18, &3C, &3C	810 DEFPROCCCHECK	
420 VDU23, 231, &7E, &7E, &FF, &FF, 0, 0,	820 IF X=1ANDY=1 ORX=3ANDY=1 ORX=5	
0,0	ANDY=1 ORX=7ANDY=1 ORX=2ANDY=2 ORX=4	



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ASP SOFTWARE - ARCADE SERIES

ARCADE SERIES NO 1

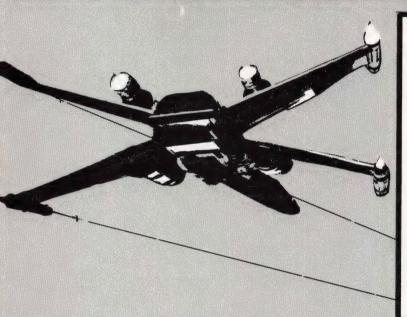
LADDERS AND WALKWAYS - VIC-20 (3K RAM)

Beat the monsters on your journey up through several walled levels in a frantic but fun game based on the original arcade game. Move your man quickly or the monsters will trap and kill him.

MELODY MAKER - VIC-20 (3K RAM)

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ARCADE SERIES NO 2

SPECTRUM ZAP - 16K

Don't let the aliens beat you in this game of death and destruction. If you've got a 16K Spectrum then this is a game you must not miss. The object is to protect yourself from the murderous onslaught of an evil force, using your laser canon to obliterate the racy rascals.

Spectrum Zap makes good use of the computer's colour and graphics facilities and will provide you with hours of exasperating entertainment. People who have played this game swear that the difficulty level is high and although written in BASIC, report that the action is suitably fast and furious.

ZX REACTOR - 16K

Another 16K Spectrum game for the adventurous which comes on the same tape as the above. Now the player has to dice with death when he defuses a number of reactors which have reached the critical stage. They have to be defused in sequence and if you don't get to them within the set time limit your man gets blown up in the explosion. A testing but fun game too.

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ARCADE SERIES NO 3

YHATZI - (VIC-20)

Based on a popular dice game, Yahtzee is very easy to learn. The basics of the game lie in achieving certain combinations with 5 dice. Between 2 and 8 players may play and the game is fun for young and old alike.

BILLIARDS - (VIC-20)

Ever fancied yourself as the computer world's answer to Steve Davis? Now you need step no further than your living room. Snooker it's not, but you can still experience the fun of lining a shot up and calculating the rebound. The game is based loosely on the traditional game of Billiards. BOTH GAMES ON ONE TAPE FOR £5.99 ALL INCLUSIVE.



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MODEL B (or A+32K)

Cassette 4: Beeb-Beep (Super Simon Game) £4.50 Cassette 5: Beebmunch (full colour Munchman) £6.50

Cassette 6: Super Hangman (animated, educational) £4.50

Cassette 7: 3D Maze (fast and intricate) £4.50 Cassette 12: Flags (Countries and Capitals) £4.50

CASSETTE 9

Contains model B Invaders. A superb feature adaptation of the arcade 'Space Invaders' game in machine code and hi-resolution colour graphics for the BBC Micro model B (or A+32K). Play normal game or choose from the many options including Missile, Bomb and Invader speeds. Invisible Visible and Shields no Shields. Quite simply the best.

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CASSETTE 11

ATLANTIS. The superb fast action arcade game written in machine code to illustrate to the full the machines fantastic colour graphics and capabilities. This game includes all the usual ATLANTIS/SCRAMBLE features. Guide your submarine Nautilus along the undersea landscape and through the caverns avoiding mines, depth charges, rockets, jelly fish, serpants etc.

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CASSETTE 13 - HYPERDRIVE

A new, very addictive machine code arcade game. Guide your laser tanks around the network of passages destroying the drone Aliens – but beware, evil OTTO lies in wait!

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For MODEL B (or A+32K)

CASSETTE 14 - STRATOBOMBER

Another new highly colourful machine code arcade game. Can you keep the enemy fleet at bay long enought to destroy the nuclear reactor of the rogue Star Ship before it destroys your home planet? Superb graphics.

Only £7.50

For MODEL B (or A+32K)

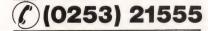
NEW CASSETTE 15 - LEAP FROG

The fabulous 'frogger' arcade game reaches the BBC micro. Superbly written full colour machine code version for the Model B (or A+32K). Help the frog cross the road avoiding the vehicles travelling at different speeds, and cross the multi current river to reach the safety of the lilly pads. The game gets progressively harder – perfect for arcade addicts.



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SOFTWARE REVIEWS

This is the place to find out more about the software for your micro. Each month we review a hat-full of tapes and bring you the results.

Each month PCT will be presenting pages of reviews of the computer programs currently available. We have engaged a team of reviewers, each of whom is a seasoned user of his/her particular machine and has the crazy streak that means they enjoy playing computer games!

All types of software will, however, be reviewed in these pages; but with around 85% of all home-computer software being of the playful variety, you will be seeing more games than anything else!

Our 'Ratings Table' headings are:

Program Quality

Here we're looking to see how well written the program is, and how well it exploits the computer's capabilities. Also, how logical is the structure of the program? Does it require the user to make guesses to use it?

Crashproofing

We all hit the wrong key sometimes, do we not? Go on, admit it. If the program has been well written, all should not be lost. If, for example, the machine is asking you to enter "Yes" or "No", then any other key except Y or N should illicit no response whatsoever. In other words, how tolerant is the program of us humans?

Value For Money

Quite frankly, some software on sale today is vastly overpriced. With the low cost of cassette tapes, why should simple games cost up to £12 per tape? We judge this one on an overall basis — how much work have the suppliers put into the program and is the price reasonable?

Presentation On-screen

How good are the graphics used in the program? If the instructions are provided on screen, are they both readable and easy to understand? This section examines the visual aspects of the package - vital for games!

Ease Of Use

If the program is for, say, an 'action' game, then the author's choice of keys is very important. Try playing "Invaders" with the movement keys reversed, and the "Fire" button right next to 'Reset'! There are many, many ways in which life can be made easy for the program user. We want to see them all used!

Supplied Instructions

Regardless of whether the instructions come on sheets of paper, or are presented as text on-screen, they should be as clear and as concise as possible.

Ratings are done on a "Five stars is excellent, one is hopeless" basis, with the reviewer then scoring the supplied package as a whole on a percentage scale.

Title: Golf Type: Tape Salamander Supplier: Software Machine: Dragon 32

Price:

This version of golf is perhaps the nearest you will ever get to actually playing the real thing on your micro. The game offers you nine different hole layouts and by playing through this course twice you achieve the standard 18 hole course.

Each hole is split into two parts. The first part is your tee off. In this, the tee, fairway and the hole are all displayed in high resolution on the screen. You line up your shot by using the up and down arrow keys to move a cursor in front of the ball. When you are happy with the position of your stroke, you then progress to a menu selection of clubs. Having made the choice of club for that shot you return to the high resolution display and hit the ball. This procedure continues until you manage to get the ball onto the

When you eventually reach the green, the display switches to an expanded high resolution picture of the hole and its surrounding hazards. Once again you move the cursor to position the shot and choose your club to make the

stroke.

On the fairway you have displayed an arrow indicating the direction and strength of the wind. On the green this arrow indicates the direction and strength of the slope.

The fairway has its own share of problems to overcome, these are the rough, hazards and out of bounds. If your ball lands in the rough then there is a good chance that you will 'top' your next shot and therefore lose a stroke on your opponent. The hazards are trees and bunkers, if you land the ball in one of these then it will stop dead. Needless to say that it is very difficult to recover from these situations. If you play your ball into one of the out of bounds areas, then the ball will be judged as lost and you will have to play a new

ball from the position where you took your last shot.

The game can be played by either one or two players, using the Stableford point system. At the beginning of the game you can input your own handicap, or have the computer randomly assign you

Overall this game is a very good implementation of a difficult to represent sport. I think it would be very difficult to tire of the challenge which this game represents. My one criticism is that there isn't a nineteenth hole to retire to when you have finished a game.

Ratings Table

Program Quality	*	*	*	*		
Value for Money	*	*	*	*		
Presentation On-screen	*	*	*	*	*	
Ease of use	*	*	*			
Crashproofing	*	*	*	*		
Supplied Instructions			*	*		
Overall	8	09	6			

N.A.

Title: Cosmos Type: Tape

The Software Supplier: House BBC A & B Machine:

Price: £5.95

If you have played the Galaxians type of arcade games, then you'll like Cosmos. Written in a combination of Basic and Hi-Res, Cosmos gives you three lives with the space bar letting you start another game.

Cosmos uses red and vellow aliens on a black background, with two different types of alien. Your score is shown at the top of the screen, with the highest score you

have reached.

To shoot down and destroy the aliens as they advance on you, use the space bar and then the arrows to move out of their way. But using the keyboard with the BBC machine is certainly slower than using a paddle or joystick with other machines. . . So you need to have very fast reflexes to reach a high score.



If you think its easy, sit down and try to reach a large score. You'll find it needs nimble fingers to succeed.

Another value for money game at only £6 including VAT.

Ratings Table

Program Quality: * * *
Value for Money: * * * *
Presentation On-screen: * *
Ease of use: * * *
Crashproofing: * * *
Supplied instructions: * *
Overall: *

N.A.

Title: Space Castle
Type: Tape/disc
Supplier: Microdeal
Machine: TRS-80 Models I & III

Price: £11.95

Very impressive opening titles in Space Castle promise an exciting arcade style game that, for me, didn't materialize.

In the centre of your screen is a graphic representation of the alien SPACE CASTLE. Surrounding it are three revolving shields which you must penetrate before you can attack the space station itself. Orbiting with the shields are a number of alien space mines which, periodically, break out of orbit and seek to destroy you.

You have complete control over your ship, being able to revolve it to the port or starboard, fire the thrust rockets or blast with your cannon, which seems to have a limitless supply of ammunition.

The object of the game is to gain points by blasting your way through the energy fields to attack the castle. Whilst doing this you have to avoid being hit by one of the mines or one of the castle's energy bolts which it can release should there be a direct line of fire between

it and you.

The sound effects are limited, though I did think that the effect of the mines exploding was effective.

My overall rating of this game was low as I found that, at least for me, it wasn't demanding enough to make it addictive.

Ratings Table

Program Quality: * * *
Value for Money: * *
Presentation On-screen: * *
Ease of use: * * *
Crashproofing: * * *
Supplied instructions: * * *
Overall: 55%

Title: 3D Tunnel Type: Tape

Supplier: New Generation Software

Machine: Spectrum Price: £5.95

This game is like no tube journey you've ever been on! Imagine yourself as the driver of a wayward London tube train careering along an unknown tunnel and you'll be some way towards playing this

Once you've LOADed the game, you are presented with a menu of options, including a choice of two well-known makes of joystick (Kemptson and AGF Hardware), 'spare', which is a general joystick arrangement, as well as the option to use the keyboard controls. To start the game, you have to choose between a fast, medium or slow speed; and if you're after a relaxed time at the keyboard, I'd recommend the slow speed!

The idea of the game is to travel down a tunnel and kill the various wildlife that you find there.

Amongst these creatures are spiders, toads, bats, rats and the occasional tube train. Various points are allocated to these creatures, and if you successfully manage to get them in your sights, your score is incremented by this amount. Dodging a tube train is given the highest number of points; and rightfully so in my opinion — I never managed to dodge it once!

It is hard to offer advice concerning tactics for the game since the creatures appear on different levels of the tunnel, i.e. spiders hang from the ceiling and rats crawl along the floor. However, I must say that the game improved 100% once played with a joystick; the keyboard controls are a little difficult to manipulate easily.

The graphics used to describe the various furry (or not so furry) animals are also very good, as is the representation of a tube train. The only thing that bothered me slightly was the use of the colour in the tunnel. It wasn't the impression of the tunnel that made me feel slightly 'heady', but the moving colours on the eyes — not a game for tired eyes.

The complete game can be played on the 48K Spectrum — but for those of you with the smaller Spectrum, you can play each phase of the game spearately. You can travel down the tunnel, zap the various creatures (only one per phase), but in the 16K version there is no tube train. However, when you consider the memory restrictions of the 16K Spectrum, New Generation have done very well to make the program available to all Spectrum users.

When I spoke to the author of the program, he told me that when you have journeyed down the tunnel, killed any number of creatures and dodged the odd tube train, you eventually emerge in the cold light of day, and are greeted with a message of congratulations. I'm only telling you this because all I ever got was a message emphasising my failure, and a quick note that I needed more practise!

Ratings Table

 Program Quality:
 * * * * *

 Value for Money:
 * * * * *

 Presentation On-screen:
 * * * *

 Ease of use:
 * * * *

 Crashproofing:
 * * * *

 Supplied instructions:
 * * *

 Overall:
 90%

 R.M.

Title: Ghost Hunter
Type: Tape/disc
Supplier: Arcade Plus
through Creative
Software
Machine: Atari 400/800
Price: Tape = £19.95;
disc = £22.95

One of the Pac-man type games not to be wpied off the market by Atari is Ghost Hunter. This is a rival game which will be appreciated by those paranoids who enjoy spending their leisure time being pursued by threatening creatures.

The format of the game is much as you might expect; a complex labyrinth haunted by ghosts, who REVIEW

GAMES

wander the passages looking for the animated mouth which (very unflatteringly) represents you, the player.

You have to run from them, eating the yellow dots on your way. When you reach the 'power pills' in each of the four corners of the maze, gobble it up if there are any ghosts in your vicinity. Then revenge is yours and very sweet it is. You become the chaser and now can eat up the ghosts for extra points.

Ghost Hunter is certainly not innovative, and I don't imagine it was supposed to be. Where it scores is in the execution; it's very, very fast, making it a very difficult game to play. Let your concentration wander for a moment and you will find yourself surrounded by ghosts ready to mercilessly devour you. You'll also find that your pursuers perform the sort of vanishing trick that would make Sebastian Coe turn pale and give up.

The best tactic to adopt is the hide and seek approach. Eat a pill and then lie in wait to ambush passing ghosts. As in the arcade game you won't be pursued until you are actually spotted so it is possible to hide from unsuspecting meanies.

One fault lies in the scoring. At the end of the two player game only the second players final score is left on the screen and unless the first player makes a rapid mental note of his final score at the end of his last life it is impossible to tell who has won.

Ratings Table

Duo aug ma Oug liter	280	ata	-1-	
Program Quality:	ж	*	*	*
Value for Money:	*	*	*	
Presentation On-screen:	*	*	*	*
Ease of use:	*	*	*	*
Crashproofing:	*	*	*	*
Supplied instructions:	*	*	*	*
Overall:		%		
			I.	P

Title: Rabbit Calc
Type: Tape (also available on disk)
Supplier: Rabbit Software
Machine: VIC 20 with 16K
Price: £19.99

The most popular program in the world for micro-computers must be Visicalc, the financial package that seems to have sold more Apples than any other program. But although Visicalc is a fantastic program, it needs far more memory than normally available on the

smaller machines. Now there is a British program that offers you many of the features of Visicalc at far lower cost.

Unlike many programs for the VIC, with Rabbit Calc read the instructions first. Then load the program. Otherwise you will be confused and end up contacting Rabbit Software and complaining about the program.

Rabbit Calc produces a giant worksheet that can be up to 99 rows long by 26 columns. With the maximum available in practice being the product of rows and columns making no more than 400. Still a very large worksheet.

You name your columns by creating what is known as a 'label' and each of them can be up to nine characters long. Each column can have an almost unlimited number of digits, but only five are displayed, though you can calculate on nine. By operating shift and return you can see all the digits and the calculation that is being made.



Rabbit Calc gives you the facility to add, multiply, divide, subtract and replicate any two boxes. So you can enter all your information and let Rabbit Calc do all the hard work, and the sums.

The 'F' control tells you how much free memory is left. While 'W' for window regulates the number of columns you are displaying. If you display fewer columns, you can move around far quicker. 'B' gives you the option of clearing or deleting in cursor, while 'C' clears all the information on the labels. When you type 'R', you can replicate-duplicate-any of the labels, values or formulae. Other facilities include 'S' for storage and the 'Go' to feature from Visicalc.

Error checking systems prevent you from doing stupid things that might cause the program to crash. Once you have defined the size of the sheet you are working on, if you try to send information to a non-existent label column, it is rejected. Equally trying to make the program crash is virtually impossible. It may give an overflow error message, but

to indicate one the values would have to be after all the calculations greater than the power of 37. At this high power even millions appear almost insignificant, so in practice it is crashproof.

Ratings Table

Program Quality:	*	*	*	*
Value for Money:	*	*	*	*
Presentation On-screen:	*	*	*	*
Ease of use:	*	*	*	
Crashproofing:	冰	*	*	*
Supplied instructions:	*	*	*	
Overall:	86	%		

Title: Death Satellite
Type: Tape
Supplier: A & F Software
Machine: 12K ATOM
Price: £6

Death Satellite is an adventure game for those who love to be driven mad by frustration. As far as I have been able to tell, one would need a copy of the listing to solve the elusive mystery.

Apparently your Time Machine, having run out of fuel, has deposited you upon a deserted satellite full of terrible ways to die. In a bid to secure more fuel for your machine you must explore the surrounding rooms and decipher their secrets. You are given only the barest of help and it is up to your quickness of mind to discover the command words to assist you in your quest.

For further confusion the program logic seems to break down in one or two places. For example, only very occasionally I might add, after reversing your direction of travelling you do not end up at your previous travel point. A nasty thought has just occurred to me—perhaps it is a built in device to drive you mad. Also, again very occasionally, the game restarts automatically, leaving you staring in slight confusion at the command to "Type RUN for new game".

All in all an interesting game that should appeal to all those who love text only Adventures.

Ratings Table

Program Quality:	*	*	*	*
Value for Money:	*	*	*	*
Presentation On-screen:	*	*	*	
Ease of use:	*	*	*	*
Crashproofing:	*	*	*	*
Supplied instructions:	*	*	*	
Overall:	75	%		
			P.	S

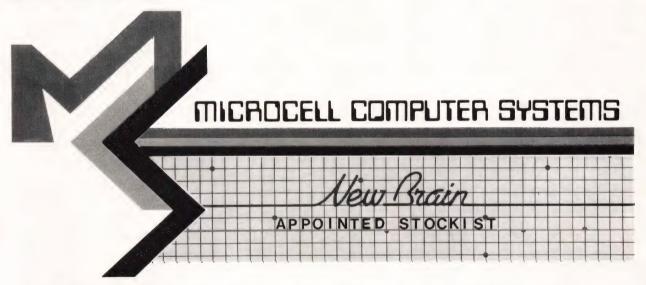
QUESTION

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SINCLAIR SPECTRUM 48K	FOR	£171.00
ORIC-I 48K	FOR	£168.00
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Three out of every four computers going into schools are BBC Micros. Is there a lesson to be learned by every user?

As part of the current government subsidised scheme aimed at introducing micros to schools, the Department of Industry undertook a survey of machines available and made recommendations to education authorities all over the country.

The BBC Micro met their priorities exactly: it is economical yet fast and powerful, and it can justify the investment involved, through its capability to grow with the needs of the user and with the rapid changes in technology.

Teachers and education authorities agreed, and today it represents over three-quarters of all micros being ordered for schools across the country under the DOI scheme.

The BBC's choice too.

In choosing a machine to put their name to for their massive Computer Literacy Project, the BBC had the same set of priorities as the DOI. The BBC Micro is now an integral part of that project, which includes books, software, courses and a number of major television series, one of which, "Making the Most of the Micro" is now being broadcast.

All this for only £399.

The BBC Micro is light and compact. It generates high resolution colour graphics, and is capable of synthesising music and speech using its own internal speaker. The keyboard uses a conventional layout and typewriter feel.

The most sophisticated version (called

Model B) is available for only £399. (There is also a basic model available, the Model A, at £299.)

Designed to grow.

Last year the magazine "Which Micro?" said that the most attractive and exciting feature of the BBC Microcomputer was its 'enormous potential for expansion.

This is indeed one of the features that sets it aside from the competition.

For example, as well as interface sockets to allow you to connect to a cassette recorder, and to your own television, you can also use video monitors, disc drives, printers (dot matrix and daisy wheel) and paddles for games or laboratory

You can also plug in ROM cartridges containing games with specialist application programs.

The Tube. A unique feature.

The Tube, which is unique to the BBC Micro, provides for the addition of a second processor via a high speed data channel. The possibilities are enormous. For example, the addition of a second



3MHz 6502 processor with 64K of RAM doubles processing speed. While a Z80 with 64K of RAM opens the door to a fully CP/M* compatible operating system, with all the benefits for business applications.

Linking up with other computers.
The BBC Micro also offers a facility of immense potential value to schools, colleges and businesses. It's called Econet—a system which uses telephone cable to link with other BBC Micros. A number of machines can then share the use of expensive disc drive and printer facilities.

Make full use of Prestel & Teletext.
With special adaptors you will not only be able to turn your TV set into a Prestel terminal and Teletext receiver, but you can also take data and programs direct from these services. (The programs, which are known as telesoftware, are already being broadcast by BBC's Ceefax service.) This is another first for the BBC Micro.

BASIC plus.
A sophisticated version of BASIC has been chosen for the BBC Micro, which incorporates features normally found only in more advanced high level languages. However, there is also a facility allowing access through a simple command to another language – for example, PASCAL, FORTH and LISP.

*Trademark of Digital Research.



A full range of software.
Applications software for the BBC Micro already cover a very wide field. Packages covering games, education and business applications are available on cassette. All developed to the same high standards set by the hardware.

The best possible back-up.

Your BBC Micro comes with the backing of the BBC and an extensive dealer and service network.

Each approved dealer is able to offer advice and carry out expansion work and repairs

and carry out expansion work and repairs	3.
BBC Microcomputer – Model A and Mode	el B.
2MHz 6502A Processor.	
32K ROM; 16K RAM Model A, 32K RAM Mode	el B.
Full QWERTY keyboard with 10 user-definable function keys.	e
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Interface sockets (Model B only) – RS423, for a inputs centronics and user port.	nalog
6502,Z80,16032 second processors.	
Single and Dual Disc Drives with 100 and 800 l storage.	K-bytes
Teletext unit.	

How to buy your BBC Micro.

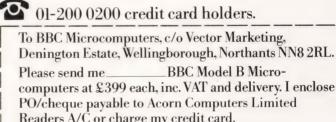
Networking facility - via Acorn Econet.®

Speech synthesis.

If you are a credit card holder and would like to buy a BBC Micro B, or if you would like the address of your nearest stockist, just phone 01-200 0200.

Alternatively, you can buy a Model B directly by sending off the order form below to: BBC Microcomputers, c/o Vector Marketing, Denington Estate, Wellingborough, Northants, NN8 2RL.

All orders are despatched by fully insured courier and come complete with easy to follow 500 page User Guide and Welcome cassette.



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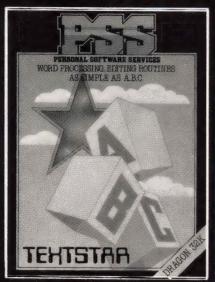
The BBC Microcomputer System.

Designed, produced and distributed by Acorn Computers Limited.

Personal Software Services

Presents

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TEXTSTAR

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TEXTSTAR ENABLES THE USER TO CONSTRUCT FILES IN ASCII FORMAT WHICH MAY BE RECORDED ON CASSETTE TAPE AND SUBSEQUENTLY RELOADED FOR EDITING. EXAMINATION OR PRINTING.

TEXTSTAR MAY BE USED EITHER AS A WORD PROCESSOR INCLUDING ALL THE USUAL FUNCTIONS OR TO EDIT BASIC PROGRAMS.

TEXTSTAR WILL HANDLE UP TO 21000 BITS OR A 20K PROGRAM ON 32K MACHINES. THIS IS THE EQUIVALENT OF 6 PAGES OF A4 TEXT PER LOADING.

DRAGBUG 12-95

DRAGBUG IS ESSENTIALLY A
MACHINE CODE MONITOR FOR
THE DRAGON 32K GIVING THE
USER EASY WRITING, ENTERING AND DEBUGGING FUNCTIONS FOR MACHINE CODE
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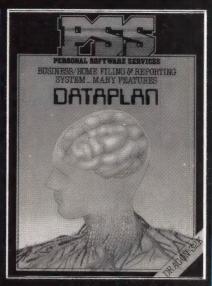
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SEND CHEQUE OR PO TO PSS 452 STONEY STANTON ROAD COVENTRY CV6 5DG **GEMINI ELECTRONICS**

LOOK BEFORE YOU LEAP

Set in the heart of Manchester we find Gemini Electronics, the target for our dealer special.

In this month's Look Before you Leap we leave behind the sanctity of London and head for the uncharted regions north of Watford. The subject for our dealer scrutiny this month in Gemini Electronics. Situated not far from Manchester's Piccadilly station, Gemini look to provide a comprehensive service for home computer users in Manchester and the North.

Gemini's offices and shrowroom are located on the second floor of an inauspicious building, thus giving the customer who visits them the impression of walking into someone's back room to look at his computer. This helps to alleviate the fear usually associated with walking into a bright modern computer showroom and being confronted by salesman eager to take your money.

The first thing you notice when entering their premises is the emphasis placed on the Atari range of computers and games machines. The walls are festooned with many weird and wonderful titles for the 400/800 and the VCS. It really is a case of 'if it's worth having for the Atari, we'll stock it'. All the games that Gemini stock are thoroughly tested before they meet the public's gaze, ensuring that you can get a full demonstration before parting with any money.

Complementing the Atari computers are the Commodore VIC-20 and the 64. The software support for these machines, while not as comprehensive as for the Atari, is quite respectable.

Competitive Prices

Prices on the whole are a few pounds cheaper than manufacturers

recommended, with Gemini preferring not to play the price slashing game, concentrating instead on providing a good back up service. The heart of Gemini's support is the service centre situated just across the landing from the showroom. Here they have four full-time hardware engineers and one software engineer who look after all the repairs and servicing on the computers.

With a view to further diversifying their sales base Gemini will also be carrying the Sinclair ZX81 and the Spectrum, as well as some of the new generation video game/computers. First up in this field is the American made Collecovision.

This games machine offers excellent graphics along with some very good arcade games, including the ever popular Donkey Kong and the mind shattering Zaxxon. For those of you who have already encountered Zaxxon will be interested to find out that there is a version of this game soon becoming available for the Atari 400/800 computers. By October the Collecovision will also have a computer keyboard addition which looks like turning it into a very powerful computer indeed.

A Galaxy Of Games

Complementing the Collecovision will be another two games machines/computers, the Creativision and the Vectrex, the latter, featuring the new Quadra Scan screen display and a system of multicolour screen overlays. Needless to say that Gemini will be supporting both of these with a full range of cartridge software. The Collecovision should weigh in at about £149.00 and this price in-

cludes the Donkey Kong cartridge.

Another interesting product which Gemini should be stocking is an add on computer keyboard for the Atari VCS. The keyboard should cost around £99.00 and contains 3K of additional RAM which will be expandable, and a Z80 processor. The keyboard will attach to the VCS by means of an adaptor cartridge which will fit into the cartridge slot on the VCS. Gemini will also be extending their service facilities to provide in-house servicing on all these new products.

Demos On Video

Gemini have also implemented an idea which is quickly gaining favour in shops who are beseiged by crowds of interested software buyers waiting to have a demonstration of a piece of software. What they have done is videotaped example runs of the most popular pieces of software and these are shown constantly when the shop gets crowded and people cannot be seen individually.

Finally, Gemini are setting up a software lending library for computer and VCS software. For obvious reasons the only software which will be included is that which is based on cartridge. If you want to get in touch with Gemini, their address is 50 Newton Street, Off Piccadilly, Manchester M1 2EA and their telephone number is 061-236-3083

Our apologies go to Micro Style for the publication of a photo of the shop opening featuring a Dragon 32 computer, in our last dealer spot about the Vision Store.

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Volcanic Dungeon is available on the 16K ZX-81, 48K Spectrum and Dragon 32. An entry form is supplied with every game. (Anyone who already owns the original ZX version can enter by sending a SAE for an entry form.) Order your copy NOW from CARNELL SOFTWARE, 4 Staunton Road, Slough, Berks. Only £5.00 including P&P, Also available from good microcomputer stores.

The 'Judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. All business associates of Carnell Software, and their relatives, are disqualified from entry. A copy of the rules of the Volcanic Dungeon championship will be supplied with the entry form.





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PERIPHERALS

This month we look at bits and pieces to use with your Atari, TRS-80 and Atom.

ATARI TRACBALL

Anybody who has played Missile Command in an arcade will be familiar with the action of a Tracball. It is a large plastic ball which is set into the console of the machine. You use it to move objects in any direction on the screen thus making it a fast and accurate way of positioning your playing piece or cursor.

The Wico Tracball is set in a solid black plastic base. The ball itself is made out of a very tough phenolic compound, making it heavy enough to spin easily, but responsive enough to allow very accurate positioning. The fire button is set in the base at the front left edge of the unit. It performed adequately although I found rapid fire a problem because of the raised lip which surrounded the button.

The Tracball was tested using both the Atari 400 computer and the Atari VCS games machine. It will work with any software which is written to use standard Atari switch type joysticks. It worked better with games such as Galaxian where you could spin the ball to move your spaceship across the screen very quickly, firing as you go. With games such as Megamania, which require a far greater degree of control, it was not as accurate as a joystick. However having said this I have had many hundreds of gaming hours using a joystick, as compared to only a few with the Tracball, so this might explain the problems I had with control.

One problem that cropped up when using the Tracball was that it appeared to cause interference on the TV display. Admittedly the Tracball and the VCS console were placed very close to the television so

this should not be a problem in normal usage. On the whole I think that the Tracball would be a useful addition to any game player's set-up although I think it would be better complementing a joystick as opposed to replacing it.

The Tracball costs £56.95 and the review model was supplied by Vision Store, 3 Eden Walk Precinct, Kingston-on-Thames, Surrey.

B-KEY 400

The B-Key 400 must rate as perhaps the most useful item you could ever buy for your Atari 400 computer. The B-Key replaces the slow and ponderous touch-sensitive keyboard on the 400 with a fast and smooth moving-key unit.

The B-Key fits snugly into the computer's case instead of the flat membrane. It is supplied in kit form and to assemble it all you have to do is to clip the keytops onto the push switches which are already mounted on the base. This takes about five minutes and included with the unit's instructions is a diagram showing each key's position. The instructions for fitting the unit were comprehensive and they included a series of pictures annotating each step of the process.

One criticism of the unit was the edge connector. It was not as robust as I would have liked, especially since fitting the edge connector was a tricky operation and one could easily end up damaging the pins on the end of the connector.

Apart from this slight failing the keyboard worked well, each key gave a smooth and positive response and was fast enough to make touch typing possible.

The B-Key 400 costs £79.95

and the review model was supplied by Vision Store, 3 Eden Walk Precinct, Kingston-on-Thames, Surrey.

RED BALL JOYSTICK

The Red Ball Joystick is designed to replace the standard Atari type joysticks. Its design is based heavily on the arcade style joysticks, featuring a solid steel shaft, eight-way switch configuration and dual fire buttons. The joystick was a little large for handheld use, but functioned well when placed on a hard surface.

The dual fire button feature was controlled by a small slide switch mounted on the base. By moving this switch you can elect to use either the fire-button on the base of the unit or the button on the top of the stick. It is useful having this option as the different positions suit certain styles of games than others. I did find that using the stick mounted button was a lot harder than using the base mounted one because it was difficult to maintain a good grip on the ball and fire at the same time.



ADD-ON ACTION

PERIPHERALS

The joystick, while only having a very short arc of travel, did have a positive action and the whole construction of the unit gave the impression of being built to last.

The Red Ball joystick costs £21.95. The review model was supplied by Computers For All, 72 North Street, Romford, Essex. It is made by Wico and is one of the Command Control range.

POINTMASTER

The Pointmaster is another joystick designed for use with the Atari systems. It is constructed entirely of plastic and features a moulded grip with a single fire button mounted on the top. The central column assembly is set in a moulded plastic ball, which provides the pivot for the joystick's movement. Once again this joystick works far better when placed on a hard surface, its base making it uncomfortable to hold for extended periods.



The plastic construction of the joystick tended to make the joystick feel stiffer than it actually was and the ominous creaking which came from the base did not instill confidence in the unit's longevity.

The top of the column was set at an angle which positioned the thumb naturally over the fire button, making it very easy to fire although a little bit more travel in the fire button movement would have been appreciated. This central positioning of the button also meant that the joystick could be used equally well by left handed people.

For the price the Pointmaster offers slightly superior control than the standard Atari joystick, but if you can afford to spend a little extra there are better joysticks on the market.

The Pointmaster costs £14.95 and further details can be obtained from TEK Marketing, Burrel Road, St Ives, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire. PE17

TANDY TRS-80

MINI AMPLIFIER SPEAKER

This functional grey box is designed to give your Tandy a voice. Well not so much a voice, but you can program the Tandy to give you sound effects from the cassette port. By plugging this unit into the cassette lead from your computer you can amplify the signals leaving your computer.



The unit features an inbuilt speaker, volume control, input jack and external speaker/ear piece jack. It is powered by a nine volt battery which lasts for a reasonably long time, except if you wind the volume up to the ear cracking levels. Doing this will considerably shorten the battery life.

Operationally, this amplifier did its job adequately but not brilliantly.

The Archer amplifier/speaker costs £7-49 and is available from Tandy Computer Centres.

JOYSTICK CONTROLLERS

These are the official joysticks for use with the Tandy Color Computer. They are based on the potentiometer arrangement whereby each joystick is linked to two rotary potentiometers.

This system makes them ideal for exactly positioning objects on screen but unfortunately they seem to be finding the majority of their usage with games which would be better off with a switch type of joystick.

The joysticks comprise a small black plastic base with the control column set in the centre. The fire button is situated on the leading

edge.

The base of the unit could have been sculpted to fit better into the hand but it was quite usable as it stood. The joystick column offered a little resistance to movement. This was good as most of these types of joysticks are sloppy, however I get the impression that this stiffness was caused by the joysticks being new and they would soon loosen up with wear.

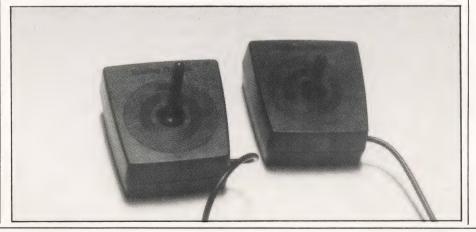
The joysticks performed well, providing accurate and positive positioning on screen. The Joystick Controllers, which incidentally will fit the Dragon 32, cost £19-95 a pair and are available from Tandy Computer Centres.

X-PAD GRAPHIC TABLET

This graphics tablet enables you to copy drawings from paper directly onto the computer's screen. The unit consists of the tablet, an interface box and a special pen. The interface box connects into the expansion port on the side of the Tandy Color Computer. Once this is done then the unit becomes active and you can start to use it.

The manual contains many example programs on how to read the information from the tablet and convert it onto the screen. These programs cover virtually every use of the X-Pad, including examples of direct copy, start and endpoint drawing and menus.

The pen supplied with the unit



has a pressure sensor built into the nib thus making it possible to detect when the pen is just at rest on the tablet's surface, or whether it is being used to write. This also makes it possible to indicate to the computer the start of a line and the end of line, leaving the computer to 'join the dots'.

The tablet comes supplied with a template which has positions marked in it for colour changes, editing commands, and alphanumeric symbols, all of which can be programmed in the software.

The accuracy of the unit was acceptable and this could be further improved by altering the software. However, at £249.00 this unit represents an expensive luxury as opposed to an essential for the home computer user. The X-Pad is available from Tandy Computer Centres up and down the country.

ATOM

16/32K RAM BOARD

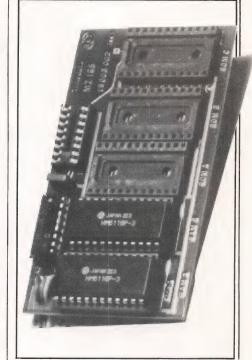
Timedata's RAM expansion board is designed to fit inside the Atom's case and provide the userwith either an extra 16K or 32K of RAM.

It comes partially built, leaving you to fit the edge connectors and wire it into the Atom. The board is socketed to accept up to 16 RAM chips. The review model came fitted with 8 4816 chips and costs £69.50.

The instructions supplied with the unit were comprehensive, but could have benefited with a few photographs to show the installation process. They were also slightly confusing as to which version of the board you had actually received. And seeing as different boards need different links and solder joints to be made this could spell disaster. Unless you are good with a soldering iron I would leave the installation of the unit to someone who is an expert especially since an unnoticed drop of solder in the computer can wreck the machine. The 16/32K boards cost between £59.50 £96.50 and are available directly from Timedata, 16 Hemmells, High Road, Laindon, Essex SS15 6ED.

ATOM ROAM BOARD

The ROAM board is a 'piggy back' mounting PCB which gives the Atom 4K of CMOS RAM and 3 24-pin IC sockets wired to accept Atom utility ROMs. The unit is con-



trollable under software, allowing you to select either the 4K of RAM or one of the ROMs to reside in the Atom's utility address space between A000-AFFF.

The unit comprises a small printed circuit board fitted with five 24-pin ZIF sockets. Two of these are already fitted with 6116 RAM chips and the other three have been left vacant for any utility ROMs.

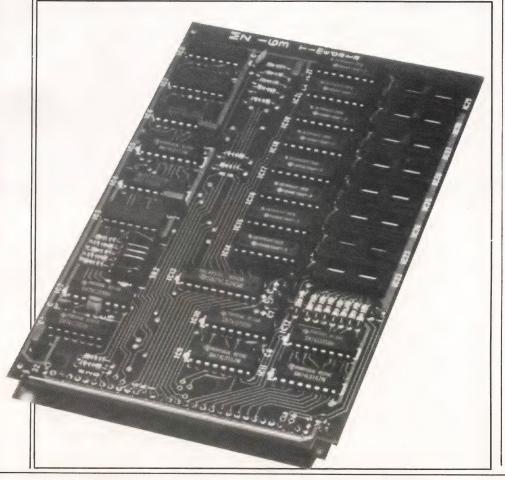
The instructions which are supplied with the unit are fairly straight forward, but as with the 16/32K expansion board they could have benefited from a series of photographs showing the installation procedure. Once the board is installed it is a simple process to select which chip will appear in the Atom's utility socket. One benefit of having the 4K RAM is that a program can be loaded or written into it and then even if the chip is switched out and another switched in it will still retain the information.

The Atom ROAM board costs £35.00 and is available from Timedata, 16 Hemmells, High Road, Laindon, Basildon, Essex SS15 6ED.

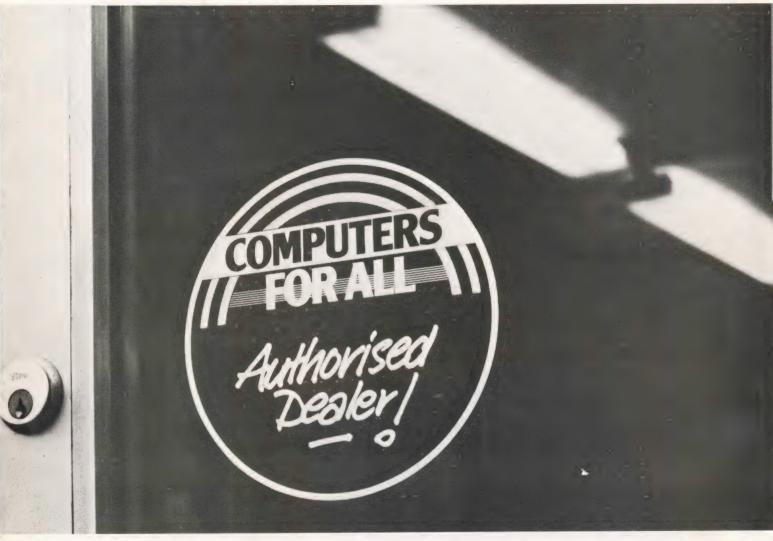
Our thanks go to all firms who have supplied review equipment.

Next month we are bringing a more general feel to Add-On Action, featuring peripherals for a wider variety of machines. There'll be something to suit everybody.

We are pleased to receive products to review from suppliers – and also to hear any readers suggestions about Add-On Action.



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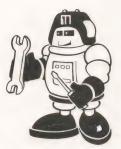


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ZX81 TASWORD

Tasword for the ZX81 (16K) is still available at £6.50. No demonstration cassette available but send 50p (refundable against your subsequent purchase of ZX81 Tasword) for a copy of the manual.

RRGROIF ASTEROIDS, INVADERS, **ASTEROIDS** A classic version of Pilot your high the clasic game. Feature packed powered sled down the jagged with thrust, hyperspace, rotate, space canyon, but be warned - the multiple bolts, etc. This exciting further you travel, the harder it gets program is written in m/c and With over 50 skill levels employs hi-res graphics and puble size screen techniques for maximum effect. **INVADERS** SPACE FIGHTER A space dog-fight simulator which, like Asteroids, No machine is complete without this, the original cosmic shootout. In machine code is written in machine code and uses hi res. Guide your with three invader types (plus ther ship), bonus bases, hi-res, fighter through tight loops and double size screen, etc. turns to centre the elusive craft in your sights With 10 skill levels (1) All the programs are available on cassette for the unexpanded Commodore VIC-20 at only $\pounds 4.00$ each (post free), and make full use of the VICs colour, sound and joystick facilities. Please state ZX81 or VIC-20 and mention this magazine **ZX81 SOFTWARE** when ordering SPACE FIGHTER, ASTRO SLED. Feature packed versions of these great games, with ORIC-1 SOFTWARE Available now - send SAE for full details. machine code performance for the 16K ZX81. Or cassette at £3.50 FREEPOST, SWANSEA, SA3 4ZZ NO POSTAGE REQUIRED Excellent dealer discounts available.

SOFTWARE



Can you outwit the aliens? Grant Privett's program will stretch your skills.

The game of Chase requires not only speed and agility in the control of your man, but also the ability to analyse the positions of the aliens on the screen quickly enough to plan your next move.

Initially you are required to input some measure of your talent or ineptitude. Following this, a large rectangular border is drawn on the screen and blocks are randomly strewn within it. The aliens are then placed in the corners of the rectangle and your man at the centre. After a brief count-down the chase is on and the aliens will be out to get you.

By using the cursor keys for left and right, and the A and Z keys for up and down you have to avoid contact with the aliens for as long as possible. When an alien encounters a block then one of two things will happen. If you are lucky they are mutually destroyed and the alien will be sent back to its starting position. Alternatively it will wait for you to move in a direction in which it can continue to pursue you. The relative frequency of these two responses and the total number of blocks strewn on the screen is

blocks strewn on the screen is related to the claim you made for yourself at the beginning of the program.

The object of the game is simply to survive as long as you can. To survive more than 100 seconds indicates you should change level. When you do succumb to the aliens the time for which you survived is displayed. REM statements have been omitted throughout to ensure maximum speed of operation.



HOW IT RUNS

10-120	Sets up defined character set in memory.
130-140	Sets up variable table and creates arrays.
150-250	Prints credits and instructions.
260-290	Inputs degree of ability and calculates difficulty.
300	Clears screen and sets initial direction.
310-360	Rectangle drawn and blocks strewn.
370	Coordinates for aliens origins.
380-400	POKEs aliens into starting coordinates.
410	Sets up temporary aliens coordinates.
420-430	Countdown.
440	Start clock.
450-880	Move man and aliens.
890-940	Prints time survived/new game.

Variables Used

A	Current direction choice.
B1-B2	Temporary alien coordinates.
B3	Screen reference location.
B4	Probability function (adjust to taste).
B5	Screen row length.
QQ	Previous direction choice.
R(),N()	Present alien coordinates.
RA(),NA()	Coordinates of alien origins.
R,N	Man coordinates.
A\$	Keyboard Input.
Z %	Skill Level.
I	General purpose variable.

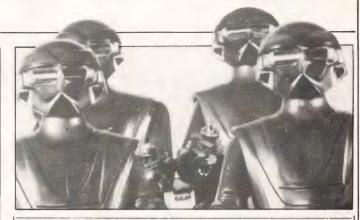


HINTS ON CONVERSION

This program was written for use with a memory mapped screen display. For this reason it is clearly a simple matter to convert from one such machine to another. For users of machines not having this facility it is probably best to write an equivalent program from scratch utilising the features of your own machine and using the program listing as a guide.

Clearly the conversion problem may be broken down into three main considerations; screen dimensions, screen location and character identity. The border drawn in lines 310-320 encompasses the area below the first line. Any character may be used to make up the border since those locations are not examined in the course of play. The screen dimensions are used throughout the program. The depth of your screen should replace 23's, and B5, declared in line 140, should be changed to your screen width.

The screen origin used above is that the top left corner is row 1, column 1 therefore the location one row above is row 0, column 0. This location, which is never POKEd, is taken as a reference point and is declared in line 140.

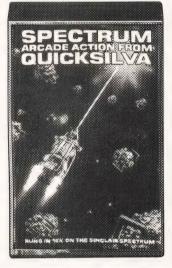


PROGRAM LISTING

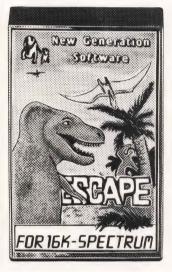
```
10 REM PWA 1982
20 REM ****** 3K EXPANSION REQUIRED
     750 IFR(J)(RTHENB2=R(J)+1:G0T0780
760 IFR(J))RTHENB2=R(J)-1:G0T0780
    760 | TRRCIDOTRIENB2=R(J) -1:GOTO7SO
770 | B2=R(J) |
780 | TPPEK(R3+B5%B1+B2)=320RPEE) | R3+B5%B1+B2)=42THEN840
790 | TPPEK(R3+B5%B1+B2)=50THEN890
800 | TRNNC(J)>B4THEN830
810 | POKE(R3+B5%B1+B2) | 32:N(J)=NA(J):R(J)=RA(J)
820 | POKE(R3+B5%B1+B2) | 32:N(J)=NA(J):R(J)=RA(J)
830 | GOTO850
830 | GOTO850
840 | N(J)=B1:R(J)=B2
850 | POKE(R3+B5%H)J;PR(J) | C2:POKE(B3+B5%N(J)+R(J))+CF, 2:NEXT
860 | POKET366.114:POKET367.76:POKE7679.76
800 | GOTO660
800 | GOTO660
    870 POKETGY-USTUMESONSONS
880 GOTO460
890 PRINT"]YOU SURVIVED FOR":INT(TI/60):"SECS."
900 PRINT"]MEMODE Y/N"
910 GETI1:FT1="""THENSIO
920 IFI$="""THENEND
930 IFI$="""THENEND
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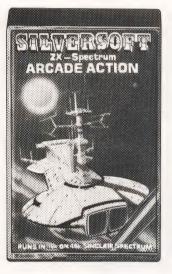
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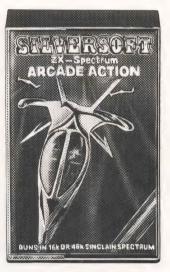
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COMPETITION

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ABOUT THE ATARI 400

The Atari 400 is an all-purpose home computer. Not only can you blow up green meanies to your heart's content but you can also use it for office purposes, like storing accounts information and employees records. In the home you can use it as an instant recipe book, manage your personal finances, store telephone numbers and addresses, as well as to help you learn foreign languages, compose music and teach yourself to

touch type.

A basic 400 comes with 16K RAM memory as standard. This can be expanded but you have to get a specialist to insert the extra memory boards which can bring the memory capacity up to 48K. Colour is also standard on the 400 with 16 different colours available, each offering eight intensities. Sound presents no problem as there are four sound 'voices' providing you with the buzzing and bleeping now so familiar in computer and video games. If that's not enough you can buy extras in the form of graphic accessories and peripherals like printers and tape recorders for program loading and saving.

One slight drawback of the 400 is the keyboard. It has a sensory surface which makes keying-in a bit haphazard because you can't

actually 'feel' your way.

To overcome that when you successfully press a key it emits a 'bleep'. The keys are also slightly raised around the edges to make them easier to use. Mistakes are still easier to make. There are 57 keys on the keyboard which is about usual for

similar computers, as well as four function keys and 29 graphics keys.

Atari graphics are second to none and are of course high resolution which means you can create very clearly defined characters on the screen.

You can program your 400 using either Atari BASIC, Microsoft BASIC (the industry standard), Pilot, Pascal, Forth and Assembler. The Atari 400 costs just £159.99.



During the last year Atari's range of 400 and 800 computers has increased its UK sales substantially. Excellent software for both versions of the machine is readily available from numerous distributors countrywide. And now's your chance to win an Atari 400 for nothing.

The Atari 400 is the cheapest computer in Atari's range but it still offers the much-acclaimed graphics which have done so much for the computer's success. It is the natural upgrade for people who have not yet ventured into the world of computing but have been weaned on nonprogrammable video computer system like the Atari VCS or the Acetronic MPU2000.

Some confusion surrounds the name given to the Atari VCS and many people believe that it is a computer. It's not. The 'video computer system' has some great games developed for it but they are outshone both speed and graphics-wise by the Atari 400.

The essential difference between the two systems is that with the Atari VCS you can only use pre-programmed ROM cartridges. Atari 400 owners can write their own programs to run on the computer because the circuit boards contain both ROM (Read Only Memory) and the vital RAM (Random Access Memory). RAM is computer memory which you can read from (i.e. call up the preprogrammed information on a TV screen) and write into (place information into the computer's memory banks, store it and re-call data at a later stage.)

Because of this the Atari VCS has obvious limitations. Atari's own software has for a couple of years been of a very high standard imaginative and well-written. The firm's programmers are expert at overcoming the memory limitations imposed on them and have succeeded in producing very worthwhile software.

It's interesting to note that firms which are now bringing out VCS compatible software were, for the most part, set up by ex-Atari employees.

An important point to note is that you cannot use your VCS cartridges with an Atari 400 computer - and vice versa. They are totally incompatible.

SOFTWARE

A galaxy of games has been written for the Atari both by the computer's manufacturer and independent suppliers. Here is a review of the very latest game from Atari's range, Galaxian.

GALAXIAN

So fast and furious is Atari's Galaxian that there is no time to pause for thought while the attacking hoardes are in mid-flight.

This is the latest of Atari's arcade series and is a replica of the very popular video game found in amusement arcades and pubs up and down the country.

Galaxian is essentially a soupedup version of space invaders and without doubt has the same addictive effect on players. Once played forever hooked. The principal of both games is the same. You must wipe out a fleet of aliens with a throbbing laser gun at the same time dodging their relentless fire. You can move the laser canon to right and left activating your weapons with the red fire button.

The alien fleet consists of four species - Drones, Emissaries, Hornets and Commanders. When in stationary formation they are worth 30, 40, 50 and 60 points respectively. If you shoot them down in mid-flight their points value rises. Drones are then worth 60, Emissaries 80 and Hornets 100. These cause hairy death-dicing situations which are difficult to get out of, but worse still are the Commanders in flight. A **Commander** without an escort scores you 150, with one escort 200, with two escorts 300 and if you wipe out both escorts and then the Commander a mammoth 800 is added to your score.

A good strategy to adopt is to pick off the aliens which swoop down kamikaze style from each end of the formation. If you let these go you will find the others rapidly follow suit and the Commanders will begin their attack. If you miss an alien they return to the formation at the top of the screen. As you wipe out an entire wave of aliens the next wave attacks you faster and more furiously. It's easy to get hemmed in by four or five aliens' fire leaving your canon no escape route. Certain and sudden death.

There are 10 levels of difficulty and a beginners version in which the aliens don't fire at you for the first 16 waves. In that game you get the

chance to learn the laser moving technique. If inexperienced it's worth playing this easy version.

For one or two players Galaxian is available from stockists for £29.99. A great version of the original arcade game which is bound to pump adrenlin into you veins. A word of warning, don't play Galaxian when you're near anyone who is trying to concentrate. The noises from the game are infuriating after a while and sounds like World War III if the volume control is set too loud.

How to Win Your Atari

It's simple. All you have to do is don your thinking cap and hit upon a original and creative **idea** for a computer program. You can dream up your program to fit in any one of four categories. The categories are ARCADE GAME, STRATEGY GAME, ADVENTURE GAME, EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM.

Your entry must consist of a detailed typewritten, or clearly handwritten in double spacing, scenario of the program idea. If you enter any of the games categories you must write a scenario of your idea complete with rules, ideas for graphics characters, names, score system.

If you come up with a good idea for an educational program you must write a detailed description of it, with as much information as possible. In both cases diagrams/pictures would be useful.

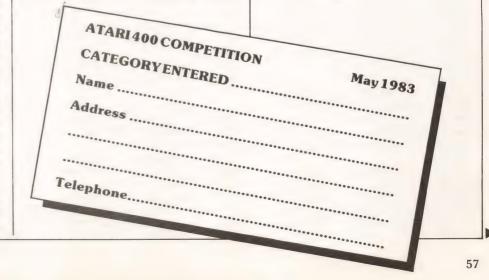
What we don't want to see are loads of re-vamped versions of Space Invaders, Pac-man or Hangman. We want you to show your individuality and let your imagination run riot to produce an original game.

Having a hand in the judging will be Atari's software development team and this could be your chance to have your talents noticed by one of the leading home computer manufacturers. There can only be one winner and he/she will be picked from the best of each category.

Your entry will only be accepted with the coupon on this page so make sure you cut it out and attach it firmly to your entry (don't forget to read the rules carefully). Remember to mark on the envelope PCT/ATARI 400 COMPETITION and the category you have entered. If you enter more than one category you must send them in separate envelopes.

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- 4. All entries must be postmarked before the closing date 31st May 1983.
- No correspondence will be entered into regarding the result of the competition and it is a condition of entry that the Editor's decision is final.
- 6. The winner will be notified by post and the result of the competition will be published in a future issue of Personal Computing Today.
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VIDEO GAMES REVIEW

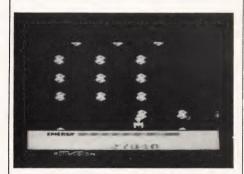
Megamania

There is only one word to describe this cartridge, compulsive. If you have a VCS and you like zapping flying objects this cartridge will stretch your brain, reflexes and coordination to the extreme.

Megamania, like all the best games, is based around a simple concept. You have a missile base at the bottom of the screen and above you fly the objects that you have to destroy. Not ordinary aliens these. The cast list for Megamania reads like an explosion in a general store, with wave after wave of attacks from hamburgers, cookies, bugs, radial tyres, diamonds, steam irons, bow ties and space dice.

Each different variety of object constitutes a wave and each wave has a different attack pattern that changes as the game progresses. For example the first wave of cookies attack in a slow three piece zig-zag pattern but in later waves this becomes tighter and faster. Part of this game's appeal lies in learning how each wave attacks and deriving a strategy for dealing with them.

When you have battled your way through the first eight shapes then they reappear in different attack formations, speeding up and dropping faster bombs as they go.



To make life even more limited you only have a limited energy supply with which to combat a wave. If you survive, the remaining energy is counted up and added to your score, one energy unit having the same value as the ships you have just battled. You gain an extra life every 10,000 points and you can store up to six lives in reserve.

The cartridge provides four games variations and two difficulty settings. You can have either one or two player games and can equip your base with either straight or guided missiles.

There is very little else to say about this game except that is definately the best of all the cartridges looked at in this survey. At the moment the office records stands

at 287190 by a certain deputy editor from one of our sister magazines, ETI. Your humble scribe at the moment is second with 213080. Megamania can easily be classed as a 'must' cartridge for any VCS owner. The producer is Activision and price is £29.95.

E.T.

At Last! amid a flurry of advertising and copyright notices our favourite alien has arrived on the television screen. No not another pirate video cassette, but E.T. the video game.

Almost as soon as E.T. was released in America Atari tied up all the rights to present this character in video game form. But unfortunately the result of all this I'm afraid is a run of the mill adventure game which relies heavily on the E.T. euphoria to give it any worth.

The story line of the adventure is based loosely on the film with you helping E.T. gather the missing parts of his intergalactic telephone for him to 'phone home' and be rescued by his ship. During the game you move the E.T. character through various inter-related scenes in search of the telephone fragments which are hidden in pits. To collect the pieces you have to let E.T. fall down a pit, collect the phone fragment and then fly him out using his special powers of levitation.

During the course of your search you encounter various other characters from the film, such as Elliot, the little boy who befriends E.T.) a scientist and an FBI agent. Depending on which skill level you choose any one or all three will feature in the game play. Elliot will help you gain bonus points and will also recharge you is you run out of energy.

The scientists will capture E.T. and take him to the Institute of Science to study him. This is not too great a problem except with his spaceship. The FBI agent is a nastier character because he steals pieces of the phone that E.T. has collected and hides them down one of the pits. He can also steal any candy that E.T. is holding, thus depriving E.T. of his reserve energy.

Contained in the scenes through which E.T. wanders are power zones. These are displayed at the top of the screen whenever E.T. encounters one. They have a variety of functions, allowing E.T. to locate phone pieces, call Elliot, eat candy, send humans away, and jump to a new scene. There is also a call ship zone and a pick up zone. E.T. has to find these

before he can signal his ship and be rescued.

The cartridge offers three versions of the game. One where all the characters are present, one with only Elliot and the FBI agent and one with just E.T. and Elliot.

Everybody who played the game found that it was virtually impossible to complete it on anything but the third variation with just Elliot and E.T. This I found frustrating and along with the complexity of the formation which you have to assimilate I think that this could alienate a lot of younger players. It is surprising that Atari made the game like this as I imagine a large percentage of prospective buyers for this game will be children.

Overall I was not that impressed although the graphics were good, especially the opening picture of E.T. as previously mentioned the producer is Atari and the cartridge costs £29.99 from susual Atari stockists.



Raiders of the Lost Ark

Following closely on the heels of Atari's E.T. cartridge comes another Spielberg blockbuster film tie-in, Raiders of the Lost Ark. In the game you take the part of Indiana Jones and guide him through numerous scenes and dangers to find the fabled Lost Ark of the Covenant.

You start the game in an entrance hall and from there you move to different scenes, collecting treasures and artifacts along the way. Although the games is for a single player you need joysticks to operate it. One controls Indy's movements and the other is used for selecting and dropping items which you carry.

The objects which you are holding are displayed on a status line at the bottom of the screen, along with a small dot which indicates which object you are using. Some of the objects which you can get are a gun, Indy's whip and a parachute. Some of these objects are necessary to defend yourself against the



menaces which lurk along your path, and others are used to gain access to certain parts of the adventure.

The manual that is supplied with the cartridge is split into two parts. The first part gives you basic information on how to play the game and the second offers you hints and tips for conquering some of the problems to encounter. With the manual split like this it allows you to play the adventure from scratch, giving you the satisfaction of solving problems on you own.

Raiders of the Lost Ark is a lot more taxing and demanding an adventure than E.T. which is enhanced by the workings of the game being weaved around the storyline of the film. It should appeal to both the novice adventurer and the experienced player. If you actually finish the adventure there is still the challenge of scoring more points. Atari is the supplier and it costs £29.99.

Atlantis

In the far off waters of some mythical ocean lies Atlantis, the fabled lost city of the deep. All seems idyllic and the city prepares to drift into the history books. This is fine until some marauding fleet of nasties take offence at the Atlantan way of life and decide to express their opinion by wiping Atlantis off the face of the Earth.

So starts the game of Atlantis in which you have to help defend the city against the Gorgon attack.

At the bottom of the screen beneath the ocean is displayed the city of Atlantis. Raised above the

water are your defences. In the centre is the Acropolis command post and on either side of the screen are sentry posts. You elect to fire from one of these three installations by moving the joystick into the corresponding position and pressing the fire button.

The Gorgon fleet traverses the skies above you. As each ship completes one pass it drops to a lower level, nearer your city. If the ship is not destroyed before it reaches the fourth level then it will fly across the city firing its death ray and will destroy one of your installations. When you have lost all but your sentry posts the game ends.

If you manage to complete an attack wave then your bonus points and score is calculated. The next wave to attack you now moves at an

increased speed.

You are faced with three different kinds of enemy ship. The two largest move at the normal speed for that wave and score either 100 or 200 points depending on which base you shoot them from. The third ship is a wild card. This ship is the bandit bomber. It flies faster than the other ships but when destroyed it also destroys any other ships that happen to appear on-screen. Once again it is worth either 1000 or 2000 points depending on which base you fire from.

As a game, Atlantis works well. The quality of the graphics, colour and sound are good and some of the effects such as the death ray and the explosions are particularly impressive. The cartridge offers you four versions opf the standard game, including a two option game in which one joystick controls the left sentry post and the other the right.

My one criticism is that the difficulty of the game does not increase smoothly. By the fourth wave, the ships started moving a lot faster and shooting them down became more a matter of luck than judgement. Atlantis was the brainchild of releative newcomer to the market Imagic. It costs £27.95.



Spiderman

Battle your way up the side of a sky scraper, bash the baddies, outwit the evil Green Goblin and stop the super bomb from exploding. This is the small task that confronts you as you slip into your Spiderman gear and swing off across the city.

This new Parker cartridge has you controlling Spiderman on mission against the Goblin and his henchmen. Using the joystick you attempt to move Spiderman up the side of a building to reach the superbomb at the top. You move by firing your web onto the side of the building and climbing up it.

To shoot your web you move the joystick to point in the direction you want to move and then press the fire button. When you release the button your web will stick where it has reached. This requires a lot of stick and you will fall to a painful death, unless you can fire a web onto another part of the building as you

drop.

To further impede your progress the Green Goblin's henchmen move about behind the windows. If one crosses behind your web he will cut it, causing you to fall. You can kill the henchmen and increase your point score by swinging in front of them.

When you reach the top of the building you have to negotiate a maze of girders which leads to the superbomb. On these the Goblin has placed time bombs which, if crossed, will break your web sending you plummeting earthwards. If you swing in front of these then you can defuse them and increase your points.

When you finally near the superbomb the Green Goblin appears and flies backwards and forwards trying to sever your web. If you manage to pass the Goblin you are then left with the task of firing your web onto the superbomb's casing so as you can swing across it and defuse the bomb.

To complete the game you have three Spidermen and a limited supply of web fluid for each one. If you complete one building you then move to the side of a new building and begin again, using your remaining supply of Spidermen and web fluid.

There are six different game variations on the cartridge, three one player and three two player, each offering different degrees of difficulty.

This game looked easy at first but soon proved to be a challenge.

Spiderman is amongst the second batch of games to be released by Parker for the VCS. It is on sale through retail outlets and costs £29.95.

VIDEO GAMES REVIEW

Pitfall

Activision's Pitfall cartridge continues the trend of games away from the alien blasting genre towards more down to earth, but no less, exciting, subjects. The game of Pitfall concerns the adventures of a jungle explorer called Pitfall Harry and his quest for hidden treasures deep in the heart of the jungle. You guide Harry through a series of hazards using the joystick.

The screen display is split into two parts, above and below ground. You start of at the left and side of the screen and move across it from left to right. As you reach the right edge you move into the next scene.

The game contains 255 different scenes in all, some containing hazards, some containing treasure and some both. The VCS sets you a twenty minute time limit to finish all 255 scenes. You have three lives with which to complete the course.

The hazards you have to surmount in the game include crocodile infested lakes, disappearing tar pits, deadly snakes and bush fires. Some of these will kill you and others will just rob you of points. The joystick moves you left and right and the fire button makes you jump in the direction you are heading. To get anywhere in the game you will have to develop a precise joystick manner, as jumping onto vines, crocodiles and logs require split second timing of the fire button and joystick movements.



By moving to the underground level you can travel the equivalent of three screens in one, but beware, the lower reaches of the jungle are populated by a particulary nasty breed of scorpion.

At first I thought the game was a little weak, being repetitive and a little predictable. After about fifteen minutes though I realised that I was becoming addicted, finding that it needed a lot more concentration and speed that I had first assumed. The game also has the added advantage that even when you have completed all 255 scenes there is still the

challenge to do it faster and end up with more points.

Activisions Pitfall cost £29.95 and is available from stockists.

Star Raiders

It is very difficult to make a balanced judgement of this game having already experienced the original version for the Atari computers. For those of you who have not yet encountered the computer version this is the story.



You are sitting at the controls of a powerful space fighter patrolling the far reaches of the galaxy. Suddenly your galactic scanner shows the dreaded Krylon fleet moving in to attack on your starbase. A quick flip through hyperspace and you confront the Krylon fleet. From now on it is a test of your piloting skills as you engage the enemy ships in a series of deep space dogfights.

For this game the television screen becomes the cockpit window of your ship. Below it is the control panel, displaying the ships energy reserve, damage control status and an indication of how many enemy ships are still at large. To the right of this panel is your attack computer display. This gives you a representation of the position of the enemy ships relative to your craft, allowing you to line up your sights before the enemy ships come into visual range.

The Krylon fleet is comprised of three different types of ship. The fighter and cruisers attack fast, but are easily destroyed by a well placed blast from your photon cannon. The battlestars are heavily defended by shields and so can only be destroyed at close range.

The battles are fought in simulated 3D. The alien ships first appear on the screens as bright points of light which quickly take shape as they swoop down of your craft. As you steer the ship the starfield moves around you, creating quite a good perpective image.

Supplied with the game is a video touch pad which plugs into the right controller. This houses keys to control forward view, galactic map, hyperwarp, computer and shields.

To move between sectors you use hyperwarp, having first positioned a cursor on the galactic map. When you arrive in a sector you will receive a warning if it contains alien vessels. If during the course of play your ship becomes damaged you can hyperwarp to the sector containing the starbase — that is of course if it has not been destroyed by the Krylons — and refuel and repair your ship. The game ends when either you are destroyed or you rid the galaxy of the Krylon menace forever.

If you have never seen the computer versions then I imagine that the VCS version of Star Raiders will provide with a lot of fun and satisfaction. The computer version does offer a greater depth to the actual game play and far better graphics.

Atari is the supplier and it costs £29.99.

Demon Attack

Despite the appallingly concocted photograph on the box which looked like it was made from Airfix dinosaur kits with wings and rockets glued on, Demon Attack turned out to be a good game.

Basically it is a variation on the theme of Invaders. Your laser base traverses the bottom of the screen whilst above you three demons appear and try their best to remove you from the scheme of things. Like all Imagic games the quality of the sound and graphics are superb. Particularly impressive on this one is the way the demons appear above, their constituent parts flying in from both sides of the screen and assembling themselves as you watch.

During the course of each frame you will only have three demons on screen at any one time, and only one of these will drop bombs, though this one makes up for its partners by throwing down anything up to 20 bombs at a time at you. As you progress to further levels the demons

split in two when they are hit, forming two smaller demons. If you hit one of this new pair of demons the other will fly home in on you whilst emitting a shrill shriek.

The game has ten different options, four single player and six double player. You can also select straight or guided missiles for your laser base.

The game progresses at a fast and furious rate and it requires no small amount of manual dexterity and hand-eye coordination to survive on the higher levels. All in all a good game. An Imagic game which sells for £27.95.



Amidar

'First you're a gorilla in a maze pursued by wild warriors! The gorilla wants to colour in the maze and the warriors want to do in the gorilla.' So starts the instructions for the game of Amidar. Hopefully this will give you some idea of the off-beat theme which this game has. Using the joystick you guide a gorilla round a maze, painting coloured lines as you go. As soon as you complete four sides of a box you get a bonus of 50 points. Also travelling round the maze are five warriors and if one of them catches you, you lose one of your three lives. When you have completely filled in the playing area you proceed to the next round.

In this round you control a paint roller and the warriors are replaced by pigs. If you complete this level then the game recycles, confronting you with six warriors/pigs who move faster than on the preceding levels.

If, during the course of the game, you manage to fill in all four corners of the maze, the pursueing creatures turn into chickens. When in this state you can chase and eat them, scoring yourself an extra 100 points for each one caught. Rather like Pacman this phase only lasts for a short period of and the creatures revert to their normal state and continue the chase.

The joystick button acts as a panic button. If the warriors are closing in on you, a quick press of the

button will turn them into shadows of their former selves, enabling you to slip by them without being caught. However you have to be quick because this state will only last for a short while.

Although the cartridge is based on the arcade version of the game it lacked some of the features of the original. For instance it did not include the banana dropping screen in which you can cause a banana to drop onto your player and earn bonus points.

Also left out was the drawing system used on the paint roller screen. On the arcade version you could only draw a line from a completed square and if you went over the boundary of another square then the line you were drawing reverted to its original colour and you had to start drawing it again.

On the whole I was disappointed with this version of the game. I found it slow and unresponsive. The graphics were below Parker's usual standard and this lost the game vitually all of its visual appeal.

If it appeals to you Amidar is on sale from Parker stockists and retail outlets for the price of £29.95.



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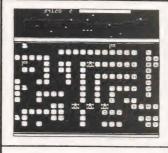
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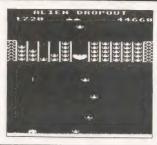
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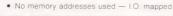






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TECHNIQUE

MACHINE CODE IN BASIC

Programming in machine code can be difficult, but not if you use Tony Edwards programs.

The program below is aimed at those who are familiar with BASIC and Basic Editors, but who are unsure of the use of machine code. It is not intended to teach machine code, but rather to allow users to run programs published in machine code and to make tape copies of them without the use of a machine code Editor/Motitor program. It is written in Microsoft BASIC for the Video Genie/TRS-80 range of microcomputers, but with the help of the line by line program explanation below it should be transportable onto most machines which use BASIC dialects.

This program enables the user to type machine code programs directly from the keyboard without the assistance of a monitor or similar program. The result is a machine code program that can be operated upon just like a BASIC one. You can use all the facilities of the BASIC editor already provided in your machine's ROM and you can use the all normal BASIC commands, such as DELETE, CSAVE, CLOAD, LIST and RUN, to operate on your program. When the program has been typed in it can be saved to tape using CSAVE and reloaded later using CLOAD. Although these programs will act like BASIC when RUN, they will run as machine code with all the advantages this brings.

The program is written for TRS-80 Level I or III and Video Genie I or II. With 16K of memory or more you will be able to handle machine code of up to 4K. The destination addresses of the machine code program are not important, nor need the program be relocatable to function. If the machine code occupies the same memory addresses as the BASIC program, then the program will sort things out when run.

Machine Code Programs

Many magazines publish machine code which is suitable for use on these machines and many of these can be entered with this program. To use them you must be able to recognise the two different methods of presenting this type of program listing. All machine code programs are published as listings using hexadecimal notation, but you need not bother with understanding this notation because in using this program you simply type in the hex codes as published.

The first method of presenting machine code is as a block of hexadecimal numbers like this:-

7000 01 00 00 CD 60 00 7008 CD 33 00 C3 00 70 Sometimes the lines contain 16 two digit codes. The first is the address (in hex) in which the first two digit code is to be stored and has four digits and the rest of the line contains two digit machine codes. It is only these codes which concern us here. Also published alongside the code will be the start address and the entry point.

These are four digit hex numbers and these are some times represented with &H in front or H behind to indicate that they are in hex. We are only interested in the four digits so ignore these characters. For the program shown above, the start is at 7000H and the entry point is 7006H. Some times the start and entry addresses are the same.

The second method of presenting machine code looks very complicated because the assembly code and line numbers are also present, but do not worry because again we are only interested in the two digit machine code and the start and entry addresses. As an example the code given above would be written as is shown in figure one.

	100; THIS IS A DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM 110; IT PRODUCES FLASHING '*'S
	120 ORG 7000 ; IDENTIFIES START
7000 010000	130 LD BC,0 ;
7003 CD6000	140 CALL 60H ;
7006 3E2A	150 ENTRY LD, A, '*'; LOADS A '*'
7008 CD3300	160 CALL 33H ;
700B C30070	170 JP 7000H ; LOOPS

Figure 1.

Do not be afraid of the apparent complexity of this listing. It contains a lot of information that we need not worry about, and can be ignored. All the information following the ';' on each line is simply the assembly language equivalent of the BASIC REM statement, and can be safely ignored.

The rest of the listing is divided into two sections by the line number (100 to 170) down the centre. To the right is the program in assembly language and to the left is the program in machine code. We need only the machine code, so use only the first two columns. Concentrating on these two columns we see that it is just like the previous example, a four digit number followed by a line of two digit numbers. As before we only use the two digit numbers.

The main problem with this type of listing is that the start and entry addresses are not usually given. They must be found in the listing. The start address is the first

MACHINE CODE IN BASIC

number in the first column (in the example 7000) and the entry point is the number in the first column of the line containing the word ENTRY (in this example 7006). If no ENTRY is indicated you can assume that the entry address is the same as the start address.



Using the Program

Type in the BASIC program as shown in the listing, and immediately save it onto tape. You will need this as a back up when you convert your next machine code program.

The program cannot be run as published, as it is only a skeleton program for you to modify using simple BASIC statements to customise for the machine code program you are interested in. List the lines up to 1200 and you will notice some gaps in the line number sequence. These are for your own additions. Lines 11 to 109 are for you to add REM statements or PRINT statements of your choice to identify the program you will be typing in.

Line 110 contains two strings, one named START\$ and the other named ENTRY\$. These are dummies and you should EDIT line 110 to remove the XXXX's and insert the addresses of start and entry points from the published listing. Remember there are only four digits for each, so ignore &H and H.

The next line number gap is 120 to 1110. It is here that you begin typing. Start each line with a line number and DATA. Then type in all the machine codes (remember two digits) with a comma after each code, except at the end of a line. The lines can be eight, sixteen or any other number of codes long. You are in fact entering BASIC DATA lines and if you have any difficulty with this then look up the DATA statement in your machine's instruction book. Line 1119 contains a single '*' as data and should always be left untouched as it signifies the end of the data.

If you were entering the program as shown above, then lines 110 to 1119 should LIST as:-



- 110 START\$ = "7000": ENTRY\$ = "7006": PRINT "PLEASE WAIT "
- 115 IF START\$ = "XXXX" OR ENTRY\$ = "XXXX" GOTO 9998
- 120 DATA 01, 00, 00, CD, 60, 00, 3E, 2A
- 130 DATA CD, 33, 00, C3, 00, 70
- 1119 DATA *

If you make typing errors while adding these lines use your editing commands to make corrections, or rewrite the line as you would a BASIC line (after all it is a BASIC line at this stage). Take great care in typing these codes as they are easily mistyped. Also, check them carefully before trying to run the program. Make sure you save the program before running it. Faulty machine code programs have a habit of destroying or losing resident BASIC programs and if you have typed in a long program then it is simply not worth the risk of losing it through not checking it.

Once you have saved a copy then you are ready to run your machine language program. Simply type RUN, followed by RETURN or ENTER. The PRINT statements in the beginning of the program should appear together with a request to wait, together with entry address of your machine code program. Write this down as you may need it later. It will look different to the one you entered in line 110 as it is in decimal notation, not hexadecimal. There will now be a pause while the program operates. This may take some time if a long machine code program is being entered. What happens is that the machine, using BASIC, is placing the machine code instructions into its memory. This is a complex task and the BASIC program may be in a part of the memory in which it is trying to place the machine code. If this is the case things must be moved about. Just sit back and let the computer do the work.

The first time you run the program after each loading, you must use the command RUN and put up with the wait. For subsequent runs, just enter GOTO 9900 to implement machine code, or if you are really adventurous, try using the system commands by entering SYSTEM and answering "*?" prompt with /<entry point address >. The entry point address is the one you copied down at the start of the run. Once you have a running program free of errors CSAVE it on a tape for future use.

Problems

Line 1

Lines :

If you try to RUN the program without editing line 110 or without adding DATA the program will indicate an error. If you enter more than 4K of machine code, when the program is run you will get an OM ERROR. On RUNning for the first time you should get the prompt "PLEASE WAIT....." and after a pause the screen will

(A. Jan 1996) paga paga paga dagan da sang paga dagan da sang	HUN
.0	Clears the screen and assigns a small
	amount of high memory for the storage of strings,
1200 to 1235	

statements and after converting them to decimal notation pokes them into the top 4k of memory (from 28661 to 32757)

Lines 1300 to 1380 Poke a machine code routine into the memory above the required machine code which causes the required machine code to be relocated from a start at 28661 to a start

at its correct address.



clear. Any problems occurring before this clearing of the screen are in the BASIC program, and any occurring after this are in the machine code program (most likely typing or copying errors).

Machine Code errors do strange things. The computer sometimes will go off and do its own thing or sit waiting for some input it has not asked for. Whatever mistakes have been made in the code, your computer will not be damaged. The worst that can happen is that you will have to switch off and on again, and start again. This is why you should save the BASIC version. If you try to RUN a program entered this way and cannot regain control try the following steps until one gives you back control:-

- (a)Press any key
- (b)Press < break >
- (c)Hold down < break > for 5 seconds
- (d)Press < Clear >
- (e)Press the reset button
- (f) Switch off.

After regaining control you should see if the BASIC program still exists (by using LIST) and if the machine code is still in residence (by using SYSTEM < enter > / < entry address >). After such a crash you should re-check the published machine code program against the DATA statements.

- Lines 5000 to 5002
- Cause the machine code program (including the block jump) to run. The statement A: USR(0) causes the machine to leave BASIC
- and operate the machine code program starting at the address poked in the
- Lines 9000 to 9503
- previous line. Contain subroutines to convert hexadecimal codes to decimal. Four digit code conver-
- Lines 9000 to 9002
- sion starts at 9000 and two digit at 9500. Are a fast method of re-running the program again using A = USR(0) statement. This causes control to jump directly to the machine code program start address.

PRO GRA

- CLS:CLEAR10:PRINT "MACHINE CODE IN BASIC" 10
 - START\$ = "XXXX":ENTRY\$ = "XXXX"
- IFSTART\$ = "XXXX" OR ENTRY\$ = "XXXX" GOTO9998 115
- 1119 DATA *
- A\$ = START\$:GOSUB9000 1120
- 1125 S = C

110

- A\$ = ENTRY\$:GOSUB9000 1130
- PRINT"ENTRY ADDRESS IS"; C:G = C
 PRINT"PLEASE WAIT" 1140
- 1150 FORI = 28661TO32757
- 1200 READB\$:IF B\$ = " * "GOTO1300 1210
- 1220 GOSUB9500
- POKEI,D:IFI = 32757GOTO9999 1230
- 1240 **NEXT**
- L = I 28661:IFL = 0GOTO99971300
- POKEI, 33: POKEI + 1,245: POKEI + 2,111: 1310
- **POKEI + 3,17**
- 1320 A = S: GOSUB9700 1330 POKEI + 4,A1: POKEI + 5,A2: POKEI + 6,1
- 1340 A = L:GOSUB9700
- 1350
- POKEI + 7,A1: POKEI + B,A2 POKEI + 9,237: POKEI + 10,176: POKEI + 11,195 1360
- A = G:GOSUB97001370
- 1380 POKEI + 12,A1: POKEI + 13,A2
- A = I:GOSUB9700 5000
- CLS:POKE16527,A2: POKE16526,A1 5001
- A = USR(0):(END)5002
- B\$ = LEFTS(A\$,2):GOSUB9500 9000
- 9001 C = 256 * D
- B\$ = RIGHT\$(A\$,2):GOSUB9500 9002
- 9003
- C = C + D:RETURN N = ASC(B\$) 48:IFN > 9THENN = N 7 9500
- 9501 D = N * 16
- 9502 N = ASC(RIGHT\$(B\$,1))-48:IFN >
- 9THENN = N-7
- D = D + N:RETURN9503 A2 = INT(A/256):A1 = A - A2 * 256:RETURN A = G:GOSUB9700
- 9700 9990
- CLS:POKE16527,A2:POKE16526:A1 9991
- 9992
- A = USR(0):END PRINT"YOU HAVE NOT ENTERED A 9997
- 9998
- PROGRAM: END
 PRINT "YOU HAVE NOT ENTERED
 'START' AND 'ENTRY' ADDRESSES: END
 PRINT "OM ERROR": END
- 9999

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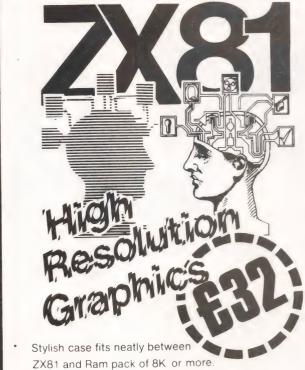
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When you run the program, the computer will ask you to select Play

or REPLAY mode. If you select PLAY the computer will display a picture of the keyboard and show you which keys are used for which notes. Now type in your tune and the computer will play it.

If you enter REPLAY mode, the computer will play your tune back to you. When entering the tune you can stop at any time by pressing the "O" key.

The program works by setting up an array, G\$(), which is 250 positions long and it is in this that the computer records the keys which make up the tune. In lines 350-560 the program analyses the keypress and assigns the actual note value to the next position in the array. When REPLAY mode is entered the program steps through the array and plays each note in turn.





HOW IT RUNS

10-20	Sets up keyboard.
30-90	Selects PLAY or REPLAY mode.
100-200	Selects and displays tempo.
210-300	Displays graphic representation of keyboard on
	screen.
310-340	Start of note input routine.
350-560	Note analysis routine.
570-580	Play note and end loop.
590	End of play loop.
600-630	Reply routine.

HINTS ON CONVERSION

Player should readily convert to the other two Sharp computers without any problems. For other computers it is a case of replacing the TEMPO and MUSIC commands with the equivalent commands for your own computer. If your computer does not have an equivalent TEMPO command then this function can be simulated by a FOR/NEXT loop placed at line 575.

Apart from these commands the program is written in standard Microsoft BASIC.

PROGRAM LISTING

10 REM PLAYER 20 CONSOLE C40:PRINT:PRINT:PRINT:PRINT 30 PRINT"PRESS P TO PLAY PRESS R TO REPLAY" 40 GET A\$ 50 IFA\$=""THEN 40 60 PRINT: PRINTA\$ 70 IF A\$="P" THEN 100 80 IF A\$="R" THEN 600 90 PRINT: PRINT"TRY AGAIN! ": GOTO40 100 PRINT: PRINT"NOW CHOOSE TEMPO PRESS 1 TO 7": PRINT T: IF T<1 THEN 110 110 GET 120 IF T>7 THEN T=7 130 IF T=1 THEN PRINT"LARGO" T=2 THEN PRINT"LENTO" 140 IF THEN PRINT"ADAGIO" 150 IF THEN PRINT"MODERATO" 160 IF T=4170 IF T=5 THEN PRINT"ALLEGRO" THEN PRINT"MOLTO ALLEGRO" 180 IF T=6 T=7 THEN PRINT"PRESTO" 190 IF 200 TEMPOT: PRINT: PRINT 210 PRINT" 220 PRINT" 230 PRINT" 240 PRINT" 250 PRINT" 260 PRINT" 270 PRINT" Z X C У В Н М , . . / **†** " 280 PRINT" 290 PRINT" middle" 300 PRINT" $\mathbb{D}^{\,n}$ 310 PRINT:PRINT"NOW PLAY THAT TUNE!" 320 DIM G\$(250) 330 FOR N=0 TO 250 340 GET N\$ N\$="" THEN G\$ (N) = "RO" 350 IF N\$="Z" THEN G\$(N)="-A" 360 IF N\$="X" THEN G\$ (N) ="-B" 370 IF N\$="C" THEN G\$(N) = "C" 380 IF N\$="V" THEN G\$ (N) = "D" 390 IF N\$="B" THEN G\$(N) = "E" 400 IF THEN G\$(N)="F" N\$="N" 410 IF N\$="M" THEN G\$ (N) = "G" 420 TE N\$="," THEN G\$ (N) = "A" 430 IF N\$="." THEN G\$(N)="B" 440 IF N\$="/" THEN G\$(N)="+C" 450 IF N\$="?" THEN G\$(N) = "+D" 460 IF N\$="A" THEN G\$ (N) = "-#G" 470 IF N\$="S" THEN G\$(N)="-#A" 480 IF N\$="F" THEN G\$ (N) = "#C" 490 IF N\$="G" THEN G\$(N) = "#D" 500 IF N\$="J" THEN G\$(N)="#F" 510 IF THEN G\$(N) = "#G" 520 N\$="L" THEN G\$(N) = "#A" 530 IF THEN G\$(N)="+#C" 540 IF N\$="]" THEN G\$(N)="+#D" 550 TF 560 IF N\$="0" THEN 590 570 MUSIC G\$(N) 580 NEXT 590 PRINT"END":PRINT:GOTO 30 600 PRINT: PRINT "REPLAYING! " 610 FOR N=0 TO 250 620 PRINTG\$

630 GDTD 570

640 END

End

640



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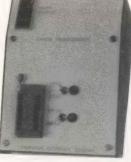
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Fully stabilised 5V computer and TTL power kits. 1.5A £7.83, 3A £12.17, 6A £20.87.

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We can supply Epson MX80 and MX100 printers to run direct from the MZ80K (i/o box not needed) for £48 plus printer price. We also specialize in interfacing printers to the MZ80K, MZ80A and MZ80B both with and without the i/o box.

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Dept CT, 32 Goldsel Rd, Swanley, Kent BR8 8EZ, Tel: Swanley (0322) 64851 Postage £1 on Sinclair products (UK), £3-50 on other computers, £4-50 on printers and 50p on other orders. Please add VAT to all prices. Official credit and overseas orders welcome.

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THE WHITE BARROWS Program approximately 8K

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CELLS AND SERPENTS Program approximately 11K

More monsters than you ever thought could live behind your keyboard. Wander the hills in search of gold and glory but be very, very careful where you tread! There are things here that will make your wildest nightmares look like Julie Andrews. Fancy meeting a Mind Flyer, for example? Or how about shaking hands with an Asmodeus? (You'll only do that once!) Treasure is here to be found though...the hard way.

See just how good you really are at adventuring with this practically unsurvivable fantasy. Not for the faint of heart or the slow of sword.

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STOCKMARKET Program approximately 11K

There are other ways of making money than bashing Trolls on the head. Try this one for a change. Contend with a fluctuating economy, tax investigations, bullish opponents, impatient bank managers and consortium takeovers as you struggle to make your first million.

It is decidedly difficult and definitely compulsive. A must for all those aspiring financial wizards, both young and old, the game has real family appeal as up to six people can play. It's easy to learn but very, very hard to win!

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SOFTWARE FROM MR. CHIP

SPECTRUM (Any memory size) SCHIZOIDS Not just a game, but a state of mind£5.50 ARCADIA Twelve different alien types, fast, f a s t, f a s t.......£5.50 **VIC 20** ARCADIA As above, but with eight different alien WACKY WAITERS The wildest, zaniest way of earning a fast buck, any memory size...... £5.50 ANNIHILATOR (defender) U/N.....£9.99 NIGHT-CRAWLER (centipede) U/N £9.99 **HOPPER** (frogger) U/N......£9.99 **SCRAMBLE** U/N......£9.99 M/C SOFT Machine code monitor and disas-DATABASE Create your own custom files. U/N£7.50 BANK MANAGER Computerise your bank account U/N£5.00 CHARACTER EDITOR With our own window

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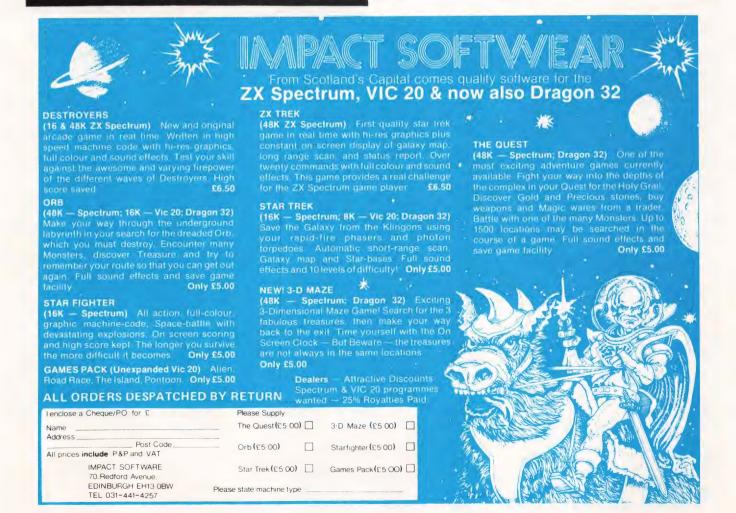
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Now there's the ZX Spectrum! With up to 48K of RAM. A full-size moving-key keyboard. Vivid colour and sound. High-resolution graphics. And a low price that's unrivalled.

Professional powerpersonal computer price!

The ZX Spectrum incorporates all the proven features of the ZX81. But its new 16K BASIC ROM dramatically increases your computing power.

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You have the facility to support separate data files.

You have a choice of storage capacities (governed by the amount of RAM). 16K of RAM (which you can uprate later to 48K of RAM) or a massive 48K of RAM.

Yet the price of the Spectrum 16K is an amazing £125! Even the popular 48K version costs only £175!

You may decide to begin with the 16K version. If so, you can still return it later for an upgrade. The cost? Around £60.



Ready to use today, easy to expand tomorrow

Your ZX Spectrum comes with a mains adaptor and all the necessary leads to connect to most cassette recorders and TVs (colour or black and white).

Employing Sinclair BASIC (now used in over 500,000 computers worldwide) the ZX Spectrum comes complete with two manuals which together represent a detailed course in BASIC programming. Whether you're a beginner or a competent programmer, you'll find them both of immense help. Depending on your computer experience, you'll quickly be moving into the colourful world of ZX Spectrum professional-level computing.

There's no need to stop there. The ZX Printer – available now – is fully compatible with the ZX Spectrum. And later this year there will be Microdrives for massive amounts of extra on-line storage, plus an RS232/network interface board.



Key features of the Sinclair ZX Spectrum

- Full colour 8 colours each for foreground, background and border, plus flashing and brightness-intensity control.
- Sound BEEP command with variable pitch and duration.
- Massive RAM 16K or 48K.
- Full-size moving-key keyboard all keys at normal typewriter pitch, with repeat facility on each key.
- High-resolution 256 dots horizontally x 192 vertically, each individually addressable for true highresolution graphics.
- ASCII character set with upper- and lower-case characters.
- Teletext-compatible user software can generate 40 characters per line or other settings.
- High speed LOAD & SAVE 16K in 100 seconds via cassette, with VERIFY & MERGE for programs and separate data files.
- Sinclair 16K extended BASIC incorporating unique 'one-touch' keyword entry, syntax check, and report codes.

um



The ZX Printeravailable now

Designed exclusively for use with the Sinclair ZX range of computers, the printer offers ZX Spectrum owners the full ASCII character set—including lower-case characters and high-resolution graphics.

A special feature is COPY which prints out exactly what is on the whole TV screen without the need for further instructions. Printing speed is 50 characters per second, with 32 characters per line and 9 lines per vertical inch.

The ZX Printer connects to the rear of your ZX Spectrum. A roll of paper (65ft long and 4in wide) is supplied, along with full instructions. Further supplies of paper are available in packs of five rolls.

The ZX Microdrive – coming soon

The new Microdrives, designed especially for the ZX Spectrum, are set to change the face of personal computing by providing mass on-line storage.

Each Microdrive can hold up to 100K bytes using a single interchangeable storage medium.

The transfer rate is 16K bytes per second, with an average access time of 3.5 seconds. And you'll be able to connect up to 8 Microdrives to your Spectrum via the ZX Expansion Module.

A remarkable breakthrough at a remarkable price. The Microdrives will be available in the early part of 1983 for around £50.





How to order your ZX Spectrum

BY PHONE – Access, Barclaycard or Trustcard holders can call 01-200 0200 for personal attention 24 hours a day, every day. BY FREEPOST – use the no-stamp needed coupon below. You can pay by cheque, postal order, Barclaycard,

Access or Trustcard.

EITHER WAY-please allow up to 28 days for delivery. And there's a 14-day money-back option, of course. We want you to be satisfied beyond doubt-and we have no doubt that you will be.

ZX Spectrum software on cassettes—available now The Spectrum software library is

The Spectrum software library is growing every day. Subjects include games, education, and business/ household management. Flight Simulation...Chess...Planetoids... History...Inventions...VU-CALC...VU-3D...Club Record Controller...there is something for everyone. And they all make full use of the Spectrum's colour, sound, and graphics capabilities. You'll receive a detailed catalogue with your Spectrum.

ZX Expansion Module

This module incorporates the three functions of Microdrive controller, local area network, and RS232 interface. Connect it to your Spectrum and you can control up to eight Microdrives, communicate with other computers, and drive a wide range of printers.

The potential is enormous, and the module will be available in the early part of 1983 for around £30.



Sinclair Research Ltd, Stanhope Road, Camberley, Surrey GU15 3PS. Tel: Camberley (0276) 685311.

	nclair Research, FREEPOST, Camberley, Sur	,		
Qty	Item	Code	Item Price £	Total £
	Sinclair ZX Spectrum - 16K RAM version	100	125.00	
	Sinclair ZX Spectrum - 48K RAM version	101	175.00	
	Sinclair ZX Printer	27	59.95	
	Printer paper (pack of 5 rolls)	16	11.95	
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SOFTWARE

CALENDAR

Count the hay days and high days on your Atom with Barry Pickles' program.



Here is a program that is useful in every home — a perpetual calendar. (Actually, its not really perpetual, but it will outlast your micro!). The program has been written without abbreviations and is fully commented for the sake of

clarity. It should convert without much difficulty to other machines, if the notes are followed. It runs on an Atom in 1½k but, if abbreviations are used and the REMs deleted, it will fit into 1K. Special attention should be paid to

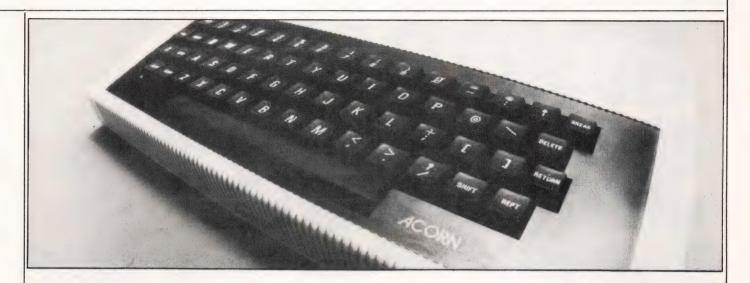
spaces within strings, otherwise proper formatting will not take place, and, for this reason, I have included a lower-case S in the print statements to indicate significant spaces.

HOW IT RUNS

Line 5	Sets print format so that numeric output is printed in column width of 0 (normally 8) and begins description.	Lines 100&105	printing is not to start on a Sunday, jumps to subroutine b at line 265. Sets print field width to 4. Prints all dates in
Line 10	Continues description and DIMensions (reserves) 8 bytes to store string Q.		that month checking for Saturdays, in which case 2 lines are skipped before printing
Lines 15&20	Requests month and year for which calendar is required and checks for validity.		continues. When done, checks if printing finished at the start of a new line. If so,
Line 40	Checks for February. If so, jumps to subroutine c at line 270 before returning to allocate string Q and transfer control to line	Line 110 Line 120 Lines 200-260	control passes to line 120. Fills up blank days to Saturday. End routine. Subroutine a: Allocates string Q (NB Line
Line 45	60. Checks for 30-day months; If so, sets D = 30 and jumps to sub-routine a at line 200, before returning control to line 60.	Line 265	numbers are significant in this section). Subroutine b: Fills up the beginning of the calendar print until it reaches 1st of month,
Line 50	Must be a 31-day month; Sets D = 31 and proceeds as line 45.	Line 270	as determined by the value of E. Subroutine c: Checks for leap years and allocates 28 or 29 to D.
Lines 60&70	Work out where the first day of the month falls, from Sunday $(E = 0)$ to Saturday $(E = 6)$.	Note: If output to	a printer is required, insert PRINT \$2 at the
Lines 80-90	Clears screen and homes cursor, after turning	start of line 80 an	d PRINT \$3 at the start of line 120 - these are

it off. Formats and prints header text. If date

CTRL-B and CTRL-C characters respectively.



HINTS ON CONVERSION

Labels are used throughout to speed up execution. These can be replaced by actual line numbers in GOTO/GOSUBs. String Q may not need dimensioning in your BASIC. The Atom screen is 32 columns x 16 lines and the output has been formatted accordingly. @ sets the column width and all numeric output is printed right-justified from the end of each column. The statement ?224 = n moves the cursor to the nth position on the current line. This is the same as PRINT AT or TAB in most BASICs. PRINT\$12 clears the screen and homes the cursor. CLEAR 0;PRINT \$30 does the same but also turns the cursor off. A single apostrophe (') generates a carriage return and linefeed. Most BASICs use a single PRINT command instead. Note that the Atom will continue printing on the same line unless told otherwise — this is the opposite of the way that most BASICs work!

The Atom does not have READ or DATA and subroutine a (lines 200-255) provides an equivalent. Using READ/DATA will considerably shorten this routine. If your BASIC does not support a DO...UNTIL construct, replace with a FOR...NEXT loop.

Also note that in assignments, LET is optional on the Atom, as is the THEN in an $IF\ldots THEN$ construct.

Finally, the arithmetic is in integer form and is straightforward, except for the expression ABS(E%7) in line 70. This gives the **remainder** (as a positive integer) after a division by 7. Thus, if E=4, the expression would return a value of 3.

List Of Variables Used

\$TOP = General response string

\$Q = Month string

= Column width for numeric output

A = Year

D = Number of days in month

E = First day of Month (0 = Sunday; 6 = Saturday)

M = Month number

X = General counter

= Year number

PROGRAM LISTING

1	REM - calendar	100	@ = 4; FOR X = 1 TO D; PRINT X; E = E + 1;
2	REM - J.B.Pickles 1981		IFE = 7; E = 0; PRINT''
5	@ = 0;PRINT\$12"THIS PROGRAM WILL PRINT A"'	105	NEXT X;IFE = 0;GOTOd
10	PRINT"CALENDAR FOR ANY MONTH IN THE"	109	REM - FORMAT PRINT END
	"20TH. CENTURY"";DIM Q8	110	DO; $E = E + 1$; PRINT" ss * * ": UNTIL $E = 7$
15e	INPUT"MONTH NO(1 TO 12)"M	120d	INPUT" ANOTHER" \$TOP; IF? TOP = CH" Y"; RUN
16	IFM < 1 ORM > 12; PRINT" NO SUCH	125	PRINT \$12:END
	MONTH"';GOTOe	199	REM - FIND MONTH STRING
20f	INPUT"YEAR"A;Y = A - 1900	200a	GOTO(200 + M * 5)
21	IFY < 0 ORY > 99; PRINT" 20TH CENT. ONLY"; GOTOf	205	\$Q = "JANUARY";RETURN
30	REM - SET UP DAYS IN MONTH	215	\$Q = "MARCH":RETURN
40	<pre>IFM = 2;GOSUBc;\$Q = "FEBRUARY";</pre>	220	\$Q = "APRIL";RETURN
	GOTOg	225	\$Q = "MAY":RETURN
45	IFM = 4 ORM = 6 ORM = 9	230	\$Q = "JUNE":RETURN
	ORM = 11;D = 30;GOSUBa;GOTOg	235	\$Q = "JULY";RETURN
50	D = 31;GOSUBa	240	\$Q = "AUGUST"; RETURN
59	REM - CALCULATE DAY OF 1ST OF MONTH	245	\$Q = "SEPTEMBER";RETURN
60g	IFM > 2; M = M - 2; GOTOh	250	\$Q = "OCTOBER":RETURN
65.	Y = Y - 1; M = M + 10	255	\$Q = "NOVEMBER":RETURN
70h	E = (26 * M - 2)/10 + 1 + Y + Y/4 + 19/4 - 2 * 19;E	260	\$Q = "DECEMBER":RETURN
	= ABS(E%7)	264	REM - FORMAT PRINT START
79	REM - PRINT HEADERS	265b	FOR X = 1 TO E:PRINT"sss * ":NEXT X:RETURN
80	CLEAR0;PRINT\$30;?224 = 10;PRINT"calendar"'	269	REM - CHECK FOR LEAP YEARS
85	PRINT"MONTH:"\$Q;?224 = 23;PRINT"YEAR:"A	270c	FOR X = 0 TO 100 STEP 4
87	FOR $X = 1$ TO 32;PRINT" * ";NEXT X		;IFY = X;D = 29;X = 101;GOTOz
90	PRINT"ssSUNssMsssTsssWssTHsssFssSAT"';IFE	275	D = 28
	<>0;GOSUBb	280z	NEXT X:RETURN

SOFTWARE

MORTGAGE SAMMES



Plan your mortgage and savings payments and benefit from W. Crump's experience.

With interest rates changing so frequently these days, I found it very difficult to keep track of my mortgage repayments. Most Building Societies give examples of alternative amounts and periods whenever the interest changes, but somehow this never quite gives me the arrangement that I require.

This also applies to Monthly Savings Schemes and Lump Sum Investment Schemes. I therefore decided to write my own program to do these sums for me, the following is the result.

The program was written for a PET but could easily be modified to suit most machines. The full listing uses 4.7K RAM, but if all the REM statements are removed this reduces to 4K RAM. The program is in three parts and each could, if

Primarily for the PET

necessary, be written separately, thus reducing the memory requirements even further.

The Sums

If your maths are not up to it leave this section out. I will not attempt to derive the formula from first principles as that would need an article of its own. Instead I will give the formula together with a short explanation.

HOW IT RUNS

The listing is entitled "Compound Interest Progams". It consists of three programs linked by a menu.

The Menu is located at lines 111-170 The Mortgage program is at 171-850 Monthly savings program at 853-1090 Lump Sum Investment at 1093-1300

Each of the programs will run independently of each other (even without the menu). Thus as already suggested they could be entered separately if space or fatigue is a problem.

The interest rate 'I' in the mortgage program is found by trial and error. This is done using a loop at line 360. As listed the loop is in STEPs of 0.1% and this takes about 45 seconds to complete the search. If you wish to speed up the program then the step

value should be increased, this will of course reduce the accuracy of the results.

The value 'Q' is the number of times per year that the interest is added. Different organisations have different arrangements for this. Some add interest monthly (12 times per year), some quarterly (4 times per year) and some annually. In general the more frequently the interest is added the better off you will be. Try different variations to test this.

Some safety has been built into the program, but it is not foolproof. So if you put silly numbers in you will get silly answers out.

The "wouldn't it be nice" factor can be fully explored and mortgages made to disappear at the press of a key.

1) The ordinary Building Society Mortgage is given by: —

$$P \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 + & \underline{I} \\ 100 \end{bmatrix} \quad N =$$

$$12 \quad R \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 - (1 + \underline{I}) \quad N \end{bmatrix}$$

where P = Principal sum borrowed
I = Interest rate per annum %
N = Number of years involved

R = Repayments in pounds per month

By rearranging the formula and given any three of the above values then the unknown value can be calculated.

2) The second and third parts of the program are very similar. They deal with monthly savings and lump sum investments. It will therefore suffice to give a generalisation.

$$T = S \qquad \left[1 + \frac{I}{100 \text{ Q}} \right] N Q$$

Where S = Lump sum or monthly savings

I = Interest rate per annum % N = Number of years involved

Q = The number of times per year that the interest is added.

T = Total amount after 'N'
years

HINTS ON CONVERSION

This program can be easily converted to run on a VIC-20 having been specifically written for the PET. The only problems you might encounter are with the screen formats. For conversion onto the VIC 20 all the control characters can be left in the PRINT

statements and the line length altered to fit the smaller screen. If you are converting it onto another computer then it would be best to remove all these characters totally and reformat the program for your own screen.

PROGRAM LISTING

```
PRINT" XDDDDDDDDNO OF YEARS= "N
PRINT" XDDDDDDDDNINTEREST RATE= "I"M"
PRINT" XDDTDDDDDNINTEREST RATE= "I"M"
PRINT" XDDDDDDDNINTEREST RATE= "I"M"
PRINT" XDDDDDDDNINNUAL REPRYMENTS="A$" POUNDS"
                                                                                                                                                                                                  710
                                                                                                                                                                                                            REM*

REM*

REM*

REM*
                                                                                                                                                                                                  GOTO 850
REM*
REM*PROGRAM POINTER*
                                                                                                                                                                                                  347 REM#PRODERN POINTER#
849 REM#
850 PRINT"MUNTO RETURN TO MAIN MENU TYPE 'M'"
860 PRINT"TO RERUN THIS SECTION TYPE 'B'"
370 GET A$'IF A$="M"THEN 120
380 IF A$="B"THEN 200
VALUES"

220 PRINT"**MANNUAL INTEREST RATE % "/I

230 INPUT **MANNUAL INTEREST RATE % "/I

240 INPUT **MANNUAL INTEREST RATE % "/I

250 INPUT **MANNUAL INTEREST RATE % "/I

250 INPUT **MANNUAL INTEREST RATE % "/I

250 INPUT **MANNUAL REPAYMENTS IN POUNDS "/R

250 INPUT **MANNUAL FERNAMENTS IN POUNDS "/R

250 IF 1=0 ANDPO ANDROO ANDROO THEN 350

250 IF P=0 ANDIO ANDROO ANDROO THEN 540

250 IF P=0 ANDIO ANDROO ANDROO THEN 636

250 IF N=0 ANDIO ANDROO THEN 740

350 PRINT ***MANNUAL INCORRECT ENTRY"

220 PRINT ***MANNUAL INCORRECT ENTRY"

230 PRINT ***MANNUAL INCORRECT ENTRY"

231 PRINT ***MANNUAL INCORRECT ENTRY"

232 PRINT ***MANNUAL INCORRECT ENTRY"

234 GOTO 260

245 REM**

247 REM**TO FIND INTEREST RATE /I/**

249 REM**
             VALUES"
                                                                                                                                                                                                          599
906
905
910
920
930
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         ADDED.
FOR YEARLY ETC.":0
  338 GEHS-1P HS- THEN 338
348 GETO 200
345 REM*
347 REM*TO FIND INTEREST RATE (1/*)
349 REM*
350 FRINT"INMNTHIS WILL TAKE ABOUT 45 SECONDS
360 Y=180808: A=12*R
370 FOR I=0.1 TO 100 STEP 0.1
380 IF (P*I)/(100*A)=>1 THEN 420
390 X=1+(1/100)
400 Y1=ABS((P*X*TN)-A*((1-X*TN)/(1-X)))
410 IF Y1CY THEN II=I:Y=YI
420 NEXT I
430 IF Y=100000 THENPRINT"#WALUES OUT OF RANGE":GOTO 850
440 I$=STR$(II):I$=LEFT$(I$,4)
450 PRINT"#MDIVEN:- PRINCIPAL= "P
460 PRINT"#MDIVEN:- PRINCIPAL= "R
470 PRINT"#MDIVEDDEDBEREPAYMENTS= "R
480 PRINT"#MDIVEDBEDBEREPAYMENTS= "N
480 PRINT"#MDIVEDBEDBEREPAYMENTS= "I$"X"
490 GOTO S50
555 REM*
                                                                                                                                                                                                              FOR X=0 TO (N#12)-1

W=INT((N-(X/12))*Q)

T=T+5*((1+I/(100*Q))*W)

NEXT
                                                                                                                                                                                                  535 REM*
537 REM*
539 REM*
              REM*
REM*TO FIND THE PRINCIPAL SUM 'P'*
  539 REM*
540 A=12*R
550 X=1+(1/100)
560 Y=(1-XTM)/(1-X)
570 P=(A*Y)/(XTM)
572 P$=STR$(P):P$=LEFT$(P$,8)
580 PRINT"JUMNOSIVEN:- REPRYMENTS= "R
590 PRINT"MODEDEDDED OF YERRS= "N
600 PRINT"MODEDDEDDED TEREST RATE= "I"Z"
610 PRINT"MODEDDEDDEDDED TEREST RATE= "I"Z"
610 PRINT"MOTHEN:- PRINCIPAL= "P$" POUNDS"
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          ADDED.
FOR YEARLY ETC.";Q
   620 GOTO 850
625 REM*
627 REM*TO FIND REPAYMENTS 1R1*
  627 REM*TO FIND REPRYMENTS 'R'*
629 REM*
630 X=1+(I/100)
640 Y=((1-X1M)/(1-X))
650 A=(P*X1M)/Y
650 A=(P*X1M)/Y
660 A*=STR$(A)/Y
660 A*=STR$(A/12):R$=LEFT$(A$,7)
670 R$=STR$(A/12):R$=LEFT$(R$,6)
680 PRINT"(INNUSIVEN:- PRINCIPAL= "P
```



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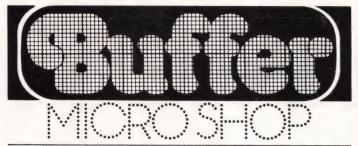
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TECHNICAL ENQUIRIES

MICROANSWERS is Personal Computing Today's Technical Enquiries Service. Each month we will endeavour to answer your questions on the subject of micro-computing. We would love to hear of your problems (honest!) as it is certain that if you are having trouble then other users of your machine will also be suffering.

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Dear PCT

Many VIC owners with more than 3K of additional RAM may be finding it quite impossible to use the character generator due to the relocation of various vectors in RAM. For instance the screen moves from 7680 to 4096. To relocate the screen to 7680 use the following short program:

POKE 648,30:POKE 642,32:POKE 36869,240:POKE 36866,150:POKE 0,108:POKE 1,0: POKE 2,192:SYS(0)

This will relocate the screen to 7680. This now leaves locations 4096 to 7696 free for defining your own custom character set.

Christopher Pucci Staffordshire.

Dear Editor

Having introduced myself to the world of computing via an early, now apparently obsolete, ZX80 I progressed to the VIC 20. I proceeded to explore the world of colour, sound, peeks, pokes - you know, all the standard stuff. I then wrote a Connect 4 program - beautiful colour, nice noises, but "eric" (VIC's nickname) was slow to respond. Ah!'I thought, 'now is the time to move into machine code. What book should I buy?' Having already been ripped off for £5.95 by Tim Hartnell's "Getting Acquainted With Your VIC 20" (which incidentally should have been called 'teach yourself debugging', as it contains some excellent practice material), I studied the market carefully and picked VIC revealed. My son by this time had become a competent programmer and he started to debug this book, his first triumph being on page 218, the Joystick control which needed the following amendments:

Line 30 S0__ ((S and 4)__ 0): switch0 40 S1_ ((S and 8)_ 0): switch1

Hope this is of use to someone out there.

I then proceeded to read the section on the microprocessor several times until it began to sink in, my aim being to include a short machine code program in my BASIC program for Connect 4 to enable it to respond quicker (and another question - Where do you locate it so as not to interfere with BASIC?).

I decided to buy the machine code monitor from Commodore believing that all would be revealed to me. It took me some time to realise that some Vicmon commands respond without a space between the command and the address but that G(Go) definately does not. It did cross my mind that a fool's guide to machine code would be a best seller as most computer authors seem to be intent on missing out obvious (to them) information.

Having inserted the Monitor, dutifully read the booklet, which incidentally will not teach you programming, I keyed in the sample program. Fantastic! It printed a screen full of each character in double quick time. I was really impressed and proceeded to try to access the code from an SYS command inserted into a basic program (more luck than judgement that they did not corrupt each other). After a number of attempts I succeeded by realising that the start of the machine code program requires a SEI (Set Interrupt Disable Status) and then a CLD (Clear Decimal Mode) and a RTS at the end of the program (return from subroutine). Don't ask me why but it does.

This was a breakthrough. I thought I would purchase the recommended book 6502 Programming by Leventhal. The man is an obvious genius but unfortunately I am not. I bought the Programmers Reference Guide. Having acquired all this hardware and software I thought I must be able to write a program and I did. I wrote a program that moved an asterisk across the screen, I thought it didn't work, it took me half an hour to realise that the b----THING moved so fast I couldn't see it, so I slowed it down. But that defeats the whole object of the exercise.

I am sure that you can tell from this letter that I am totally confused. The interrupt command on VICMON is fascinating but how and where do these characters come from?

Please, please help. I would be eternally grateful, Yours confused,

Alan Pedder.

Unfortunately no book springs to mind that will take you from complete beginner to machine code genius in easy steps. At the moment it is still a slog up the hard way. Possible sources of help could be your local computer club. If you do not already belong to one it could be worth your while in finding out where your nearest is and enrolling. I imagine there will be someone there who has come into machine code the hard way and would be able to ease your progress with a few helpful suggestions.

You are constantly reminding us to Buy British, but I have

My son is 16 years and a computer 'nut'. He is taking his A level Computer Studies at Hyde 6th Form College this year. Last August I ordered a Sinclair Spectrum computer for him. Approximately 14 weeks later it was delivered. Within two weeks it was malfunctioning and returned to Sinclair. Meanwhile I learned that Timex, Dundee had something to do with the manufacture of

MICRO-ANSWER

Sinclair computers. Last year my son's digital watch had been returned to Timex, Dundee no less than five times for repair, and on two of these occasions it was sent back to us still malfunctioning. In view of this we requested a refund from Sinclair to which they agreed. (This has still to be received by us and if not received within the next ten days we shall sue through County Court).

On the strength of the promised refund from Sinclair I ordered a BBC model B computer from N.S.C. Computer Shops, 29 Hanging Ditch, Manchester at a cost of over £400. Not only was it my son's Christmas present but it was also a necessary requirement to produce a program

for his forthcoming A level.

He quickly found the computer was malfunctioning on mode 7 (serial number 138744) N.S.C. Shops changed it for a second computer on 29 December (serial number 139739). This was faulty the moment it was plugged into the mains and was changed for a third machine (serial number 140749). Within days a fault developed and it was changed for a fourth computer on 26 Jan. (serial number 137518).

Two days later it failed completely to output to the TV screen, and today 31 January I am returning it to N.S.C. Computer Shops requesting a full refund of the purchase price, as I am not prepared to accept a fifth replacement.

Yours sincerely, R. Castree, Cheshire.

Dear PCT

I have recently been looking at various microcomputers with a view to using one in the office of our Church which is now quite large and growing rapidly. The uses to which one could be put include information storage (eg. address lists), account keeping and budgeting, and word processing. I have been shown an excellent system; 96K Ram computer, VDU, dual-drive floppy discs, daisywheel printer, and a word processing program that costs over £4000. Looking at other micros it seems that one could buy a £200 home computer, add extra RAM and the necessary peripherals, and put together a system for under £2000. Somewhere, there must be a snag, so I would like to ask the following technical questions: -

How powerful need a micro be to function as a useful word processor? eg. what can a Commodore 8096 with Wordcraft 80 do that a VIC 20 with Wordcraft 20

cannot?

What size RAM would be useful for my requirements? What differences are there in the quality of the print of a good dot-matrix and a daisy-wheel printer? Can the former be used to print letters of business quality?

Does any kind of balance need to be kept between the

Ram size available on discs and the Ram size of the micro itself?

What are the advantages of dual- over single-disc drive?

Yours sincerely, David R. Dewey. Sheffield.

To answer your questions in order. First it is not a question of a micro's power as to its suitability as a wordprocessor. The two main factors that should influence your choice of micro for this purpose is screen size and quality of keyboard.

For instance while the Wordcraft package on the VIC 20 is a usable word processor it is a little restrictive because the VIC-20 only has a 22 column screen. This forces the package to use a system of scrolling windows in order to display all the text you are working on. The basic requirement for a wordprocessor micro is that it should have at least a 40 column screen.

The size of RAM you require is influenced by two things. First the length of the documents you want to prepare using the system, the longer the document, the larger amount of RAM you will need onboard to store it in. The second factor concerns the method by which the program is supplied. If it is supplied on tape or disc then you will need some of the machine's own RAM memory to store the program on.

As a rule you should look for at least 32K of RAM either in the computer or able to be added to

the computer, for your wordprocessor.

The difference in quality between matrix and daisy-wheel printers is quite noticeable. The former is usually used in a business sense for producing bills and invoices where the quality is not a concern. However a good matrix printer will cost you between £300-£500, whereas good daisy-wheels will cost £1500+. It really is a question of what your budget dictates.

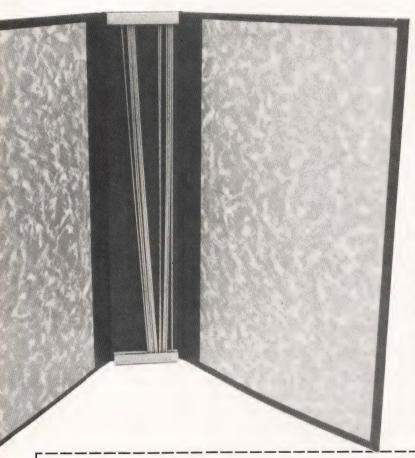
The difference in RAM size of the disc and the computer is not generally a concern, as long as you have followed the suggestions about the basic

RAM size of your machine.

The advantage of dual over single discs is that you can have a greater amount of disc information on tap. A single disc system is not restrictive provided you do not mind the extra hassle of changing the discs in the drives.

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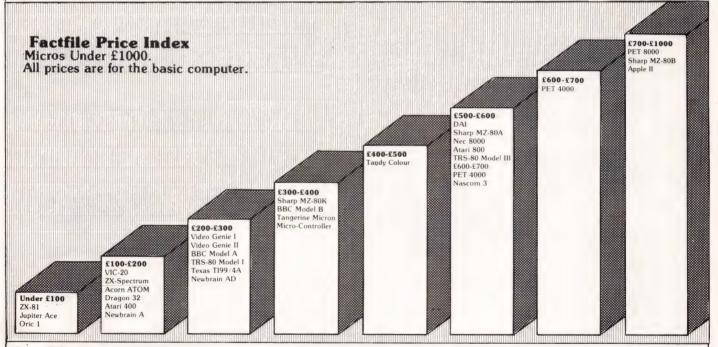
FACTFILE

Factfile is our regular buyer's guide to microcomputers. Herein you will find all the important facts and figures on 28 of the most important micros on the market under £1000. The idea is that you are able to directly compare what different manufacturers are offering you and how much they are charging you for it. Many brochures and adverts bury the reader in a mass of irrelevant facts and figures, which make it difficult to judge one against the other.

Factfile sorts it all out for you!

Just look down the price index to discover which machines are in your price-range and then consult the 'cards' on each. All the information is in a standard form and has all been checked by our technical staff. The section is presented alphabetically.

As new machines become available, we will add them into the FACTFILE as soon as we can.



Factfile

RAM: Stands for Random Access Memory and it is in there to accept the user's programs. Amount of memory is measured in "thousands of bytes" or "K" ie, 8K. A byte is a computer 'word' or single piece of information, made up of eight 'bits' which are just 1 or 0. Hence you need thousands of bytes to store a reasonable size program, since each letter, number, full stop, comma, line number, etc, uses up computer 'words' quite rapidly.

As a guideline - you can get about 50 program lines into 1K and 250 into 8K. This is a rough estimate - don't take it literally! The figures are not straight multiples, because you need to allow the machine space to work on your listing, once you've typed it in.

ROM: Read Only Memory. The machine can look and see what is stored in the memory, but it cannot alter the contents, nor store anything new. Generally used for control programs, where the micro consults the memory to see what to do next at various points in the program. Languages, such as BASIC, are stored in ROM and allow the machine to interpret what you type in, in terms of its own 'machine code'.

SIZE OF BASIC: The number of bytes occupied by the BASIC language is important, as it is an approximate guide to the BASICs versatility. The more powerful the language, the easier it should be to use.

BUS CONNECTION: A socket on the micro which allows it to be linked up to various add-ons. This can take the form of many various items, ie, expansion box, printer, disc drives, plotting device. In short a BUS is an information 'window' through which the micro communicates with the outside world.

SERIAL/PARALLEL OUTPUT: This refers to the manner in which the micro transmits data to other units. If it puts out information in a long string, one bit after another, down a single wire or connector, it is a serial output. Parallel output is where pins or wires carry information simultaneously and are 'read' together as a block by whatever it is the micro is communicating with.

VIDEO OUTPUT: an output which will drive a monitor, as opposed to a TV set, allowing it's use as a screen for the computer.

FACTFILE

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RAM

Printer

Monitor

Disc Drives

Multi-user Capabilities BASIC extensions

(Toolkits)

Other Languages



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0	31/11/2
0	
	Memory Size (RAM)
	Screen Size
_	Screen Size
	Expansion Sockets
_	Tape Included?
	Dienlay Unit Included:
	Usable Domestic TV?
0	Usable Dolliestie
	Size of BASIC
0	Average Price

16 lines of 32 characters BUS connector, Printer, Video output No

£140 kit, £174.50 built

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Centronics-type connector, Technomatic Ltd, 17 Burnley Road, London NW10, £8.50; TMS 5100 Talking Board, 6M Microtronics Ltd, Unit 14, Godinton Way Industrial Estate, Godinton Road, Ashford, Kent, £82.95; DUO-1 64K add-on, Industrial Estate, Godinton Road, Ashford, Kent, £82.95; DUO-1 64K add-on, Audio Computers, 87 Bournemouth Park Road, Southend-on-sea, SS5 2JJ, £64 Audio Computers, 87 Bournemouth Park Road, Timedata Ltd, 57 Swallowdale, it, £70 built; MZ163 RAM expansion boards, Timedata Ltd, 57 Swallowdale, Basildon, Essex SS15 5BZ, £59.50-76.

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STANDARD PACKAGE

0	Memory Size (RAM)
0	octeen Size
0	Expansion Sockets Tape Included?
	Display I Init In al 1 1
	Usable Domestic TV? Size of BASIC
\bigcirc	Average Price

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48K 24 lines of 40 characters BUS connections No 8 or 12K

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0	RAM Printer	DETAILS No	PRICE
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\circ	Other Languages	Yes	£134
	1 ulli-liser	Yes	£379
	Capabilities		£84-500
0	BASIC extensions	No	
	(Toolkits)	Yes	-
\circ	(100ikits)		£26

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	Memory Size (RAM)	
0	Screen Size	
_	Expansion Sockets	
\bigcirc	Tape Included?	
	Display Unit Included?	
0	Usable Domestic TV?	
0	Size of BASIC	
(C)	•	

24 lines of 40 characters Serial output, BUS connector No

Yes **Average Price** £199.95

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	Screen Size
0	Expansion Sockets
0	Tane Included?
	Display Unit Included?
_	Display Citie Inc. 70.79
	Usable Domestic TV?
	Size of BASIC
	Size of Differe
	Average Price
-	

24 lines of 40 characters Serial output, BUS connector No 8K £399.95

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O RAM	DETAILS optional 16K RAM	PRICE £65
O Printer	packs (to 48K Max) Yes	£199.99
Monitor Disc Drives	No Yes Yes	£299.99 £39.79
Other Languages Multi-user Capabilities	No	
BASIC extensions (Toolkits)	Yes	ТВА

OTHER ADD-ONS:

TMS 5100 Talking Board, GM Microctonics Ltd, Unit 14, Godinton Way Industrial Estate, Godinton Road, Ashford, Kent, £82.95

DETAILS

No Yes

Yes

Yes

OTHER ADD-ONS:

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TMS 5100 Talking Board, GM Microtonics Ltd, Unit 14, Godinton Way Industrial Estate, Godinton Road, Ashford, Kent, £82.95; Carrying case, CJE Microcomputer, 25 Henry Avenue, Rustington, W. Sussex, BN16 2PA, £18.50

BBC MICROCOMPUTER

BBC Model A,

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0 0

PO Box 7 London W3 6JX. STANDARD PACKAGE

Memory Size (RAM) 0 Screen Size Expansion Sockets 0

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Tape Included? Display Unit Included? Usable Domestic TV? Size of BASIC 0 0 Average Price 0

32 lines of 40 characters (max)
Parallel serial output, analogue output, Bus connection No

No 16K £299

MANUFACTURER'S EXPANSIONS 0

	RAM Printer Monitor Disc Drives Other Languages	DETAILS up to 32K TBA Yes TBA TBA	£100 £200
0	Multi-user Capabilities BASIC extensions	Yes TBA	=

(Toolkits)

OTHER ADD-ONS:

Disc drives, single and dual, Cumara Ltd, 35 Walnut Street Close, Guildford, Surrey GU1 4UN, Tel: 0483 50321, £199-799; BBC Cassette Recorder, Microage Electronics, 135 Hale Lane, Edgeware, Middx, £28; Colour Monitor, PortaTel Conversions Ltd, 25 Sunbury Cross Centre, Staines Roach West, Sunbury-on-Thames, Middx, TW16 7BB, £299; Floppy Disc Controller Kit, Sunbury-on-Thames, Middx, TW16 7BB, £299; Floppy Disc Controller Kit, Sunbury-on-Thames, Middx, TW16 7BB, £299; Floppy Disc Controller Kit, Sunfolk 1P33 1HQ, £42.50; Analogue Joystick, Light Pen, Stack Computers, 290-298 Derby Road, Bootle, Liverpool. 0

BBC MICROCOMPUTER

BBC Model B BBC Microcomputer

Systems, PO Box 7 0 London W3 6JX 0

PACKAGE

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0 Memory Size (RAM) Screen Size 0 **Expansion Sockets**

0 Tape Included? Display Unit Included? Usable Domestic TV? Size of BASIC 0 0 Average Price

30 lines of 80 characters So times of our characters Serial and parallel output, analogue output, printer BUS connection No 16K

再次在在本本的基本等

MANUFACTURER'S EXPANSIONS

0000	RAM Printer Monitor Disc Drives Other Languages	DETAILS No TBA No TBA	PRICE TBA TBA
0	Multi-user Capabilities	TBA Yes	TBA
0	BASIC extensions (Toolkits)	TBA	TBA

OTHER ADD-ONS:

Disc drives, single and dual, Cumara Ltd, 35, Walnut Tree Close, Guildford, Surrey GU1 4UN, Tel: 0483 503121, £199.799; BBC Cassette recorder, Microage Electronics, 135 Hale lane, Edgware, Middx, HA8 9QP, £28; Colour Monitor, Portatel Conversions Ltd, 25 Sunbury Cross Centre, Saires Road West, Monitor, Portatel Conversions Ltd, 25 Sunbury Disc Controller Kit, Suffolk, IP33 1HQ, £42.50; Carrying Case, CJE Microcomputer Co. Ltd, Hewitt House, Northgate Street, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk, IP33 1HQ, £42.50; Carrying Case, CJE Microcomputers, 25 Henry Avenue, Rustington, W. Sussex, BN16 2PA, £18.50.

COMMODORE PET 4000

Commodore, 675 Ajax Avenue, 0 Slough, Berks



STANDARD PACKAGE

Memory Size (RAM) Screen Size Expansion Sockets 16 or 32K IEEE 488 standard, parallel output Tape Included? Yes Display Unit Included? Usable Domestic TV? Yes Size of BASIC Average Price 12K £632.50, £799.25

COMMODORE PET 8000

Commodore, O 675 Ajax Avenue, Slough, Berks 0



STANDARD PACKAGE

0 Memory Size (RAM) Screen Size Expansion Sockets 32K or 96K 25 lines of 80 characters IEEE 488 standard, parallel output 0 0 Tape Included?
Display Unit Included?
Usable Domestic TV?
Size of BASIC Yes 0 0 £980, £1374 **Average Price** 0

MANUFACTURER'S EXPANSIONS

0 DETAILS PRICE 0 Printer Yes several £454-1604 Monitor 0 N/A Disc Drives £396 0 Other Languages Yes, single or dual £454-1029 Multi-user Capabilities
BASIC extensions 0 0 (Toolkits)

OTHER ADD-ONS:

Universal Interface, Technomatic Ltd, 17 Burnley Road, London NW10, £149; TMS 5100 Talking Board, GM Microtronics Ltd, Unit 14, Godinton Way industrial Estate, Ashford, Kent, £82.95; 64K DRC Module, Audio Computers, 87 Bournemouth Park Road, Southend-on-sea SS5 2JJ, £70 kit, £80 built. 0 0

MANUFACTURER'S EXPANSIONS 0

0 PRICE DETAILS 0 RAM £454-1604 Yes various Printer 0 N/A Monitor £454-1029 Yes single or dual 0 Disc Drives Other Languages 0 Multi-user Capabilities BASIC extensions 0 No 0 (Toolkits) 0

Universal Interface, Technomatic Ltd, 17 Bunley Road, London NW10, £149; TMS 5100 Talking Board, GM Microtronics Ltd, Unit 14, Godinton Way industrial Easte, Godinton Road, Ashford, Kent, £82.95; 64K DRC Module industrial Easte, Godinton Road, Ashford, Kent, £82.95; 64K DRC Module Audio Computers, 87 Bournemouth Park Road, Southend-on-sea SS5 2JJ, £70 £80 built. 0 0 0

FACTFILE

COMMODORE VIC20

Commodore, 675 Ajax Avenue, Slough, Berks

0

0

STANDARD PACKAGE

0 Memory Size (RAM) Screen Size Expansion Sockets 0 0 Tape Included? 0

Yes Display Unit Included? Usable Domestic TV? Size of BASIC Yes Average Price

23 lines of 22 characters BUS connection, Disc, Printer, Serial output, joystick

£129.99

MANUFACTURER'S EXPANSIONS

0		DETAILS	PRICE
	RAM	3K,8K,16K expansion options	£30,£45,£75
0	Printer	Yes No	£270
0	Monitor Disc Drives	Yes	£396 £38.95
0	Other Languages Multi-user	Yes	238.93
0	Capabilities BASIC extensions	No No	_
0	(Toolkits)		

OTHER ADD-ONS: 0

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VCH-ZU,

20K RAM cartridge, Audio Computers, 87 Bournemouth Park Road, Southend
on Sea SS5 2JJ, £39 kit, £45 built; Expansion Board, 3K-16K, Arfon
Microelectronics Ltd, Gibyn Industrial Estate, Caernafon, Gwynedd, Wales LL55
2BD, £220. Languages: VIC Forth, Adda Computers, 154 Victoria Road, Acton,
London, W3. 0

COMMODORE 64

Commodore, 675 Ajax Avenue, Slough, Berks

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STANDARD PACKAGE

		-02	
Expansion Tape Inc	on Sockets cluded? Unit Included? Oomestic TV?	64K 25 lines of 40 character BUS, Serial, Video No No Yes 8K £350	S

MANUFACTURER'S EXPANSIONS

0	RAM Printer	DETAILS No	PRICE
0	Monitor	Yes	-
0	Disc Drives	No	£230-276
	Other Language	Yes	_
	L'IUIII-IISOY	Yes	£299
	Capabilities		-
0	BASIC Extension	Yes	
0	OTHER ADD-ONS:	Yes	_

Light Pen, 4 slot motherboard, Joystick, RS232 Interface, Stack Computers, 290-298 Derby Road, Bootley Liverpool. 051-933 5511.

DAI

Data Applications UK Ltd, 0 16B Dyer Street, Cirencester, 0 Gloucestershire, 0 GL7 2PF 0



STANDARD PACKAGE

Memory Size (RAM) Screen Size 0 0 **Expansion Sockets** 0 Tape Included? Display Unit Included? Usable Domestic TV? Size of BASIC 0

Average Price

24 lines of 60 characters BUS connection, Serial output, joystick socket No No Yes

MANUFACTURER'S EXPANSIONS

0 0 **DETAILS** PRICE RAM No Printer Monitor 0 No No 0 Disc Drives TBA Other Languages No 0 Multi-user 0 Capabilities **BASIC** extensions Yes, maths pack £149 0 (Toolkits)

£575

OTHER ADD-ONS: None Reported

DRAGON 32

Dragon Data Ltd Queensway, Swansea

0 **Industrial Estate** 0 Swansea, SA5 4EH 0 0 0



STANDARD PACKAGE

Memory Size (RAM) Screen Size Expansion Sockets Display Unit Included? Display Unit Included? Usable Domestic TV? 0 32K 16 lines of 32 characters 0 0 No No 0 Yes Size of BASIC 16K 0 Average Price £199

MANUFACTURER'S EXPANSIONS

0		DETAILS	PRICE
0	RAM		_
	Printer	No	_
0	Monitor	No	-
0	Disc Drives	No	_
0	Other Languages	Yes	_
0	Multi-user	No	_
	Capabilities	No	_
	BASIC extensions	No	_
0	(Toolkits)		

OTHER ADD-ONS:

Joystick, Light Pen, 4 slot motherboard, Stack Computers 290-298 Derby Road, Bootle, Liverpool. 051-933 5511.

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JUPITER ACE

Jupiter Cantab 0 22 Foxhollow 0 Bar Hill 0 Cambridge 0 CB3 8EP

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STANDARD PACKAGE 0

0 Memory Size (RAM) Screen Size Expansion Sockets Tape Included? 0 0 Display Unit Included?
Usable Domestic TV? 0 Size of BASIC 0

24 lines of 32 characters Not known No No

Resident language is FORTH at 8K £89.95

Average Price

MANUFACTURER'S EXPANSIONS

		DETAILS	PRICE
	RAM	TBA	_
	Printer	TBA	_
1	Monitor	TBA	-
	Disc Drives	TBA'	
	Other Languages	TBA	-
1	Multi-User Capabilities	TBA	^ _
	BASIC extensions	TBA	-
)	(toolkits)	N/A	_
	,		

OTHER ADD-ONS:

None Reported.

NASCOM 3

Lucas Logic, NASCOM Microcomputers Division, Welton Road,

Wedgenock Industrial 0 Estate,

Warwick, CV34 5PZ. 0 Tel: 0926-497733 0

STANDARD PACKAGE

0 Memory Size (RAM) Screen Size Expansion Sockets 0

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0 Tape Included? 0 Display Unit Included? Usable Domestic TV? 0 Size of BASIC
Average Price 0

0-48K 25 lines of 40 or 80 character Parallel & serial outputs, BUS connections

No Yes 8-10K

£549

MANUFACTURER'S EXPANSIONS

000	RAM Printer Monitor Disc Drives Other Languages Multi-user Capabilities BASIC extensions (Toolkits)	up to 48K (max) Yes Yes Yes, single or dual Yes No Yes	PRICE £130 £215-1285 £99-120 £470-685 £50
-----	---	--	--

OTHER ADD-ONS: 0

Olivetti disc drives, single and dual, Kram Electronics, Victoria House, 17, Highcross St., Leicester, LEI 4PF, £179;349; A/D Board, 10, Research Ltd, 6, Laleham Avenue, Mill Hill, London NW7 3HL, £120 + VAT; Hobbit — minicassette system, Ikon Computer Products, Kiln Lane, Laugharne, Covnathen, Dyled, £99 + VAT; Disc drives, single and dual, Micro-Spares, 19, Roseburn Terrace, Edinburgh, EH12 5N9, £199.279. 0

NEWBRAIN

Grundy Business Systems Ltd, **Grundy House**, Somerset Road, **Teddington** TW11 8TD.



STANDARD PACKAGE

Memory Size (RAM) Screen Size Expansion Sockets Tape Included? Display Unit Included? Usable Domestic TV? Size of BASIC **Average Price**

25 lines of 40 or 80 characters Printer, serial, video, data bus No No (Single line option on model AD) 18K £199 model A, £299 Model AD

MANUFACTURER'S EXPANSIONS

0	RAM Printer	DETAILS 64 - 512K,	PRICE £75 – £445
0	Monitor Disc Drives	NYA	
0	Other Languages Multi-user	NYA	_
0	BASIC extensions	NYA NYA	_
			-
	OTHER ADD ONE		

OTHER ADD-ONS:

None Reported.

ORIC 1

Oric Products International,

Coworth Mansion, 0 Coworth Park, 0 London Road, Sunninghill, Ascot. 0 Berkshire, SL5 7SE.

0 STANDARD PACKAGE

0 Memory Size (RAM) Screen Size Expansion Sockets 16K, 48K 28 X 40 0 Yes Tape Included?
Display Unit Included?
Usable Domestic TV?
Size of BASIC No No Yes 0 £99, £169 Average Price 0

MANUFACTURER'S EXPANSIONS

_	MANUFACTURER'S LAFANSIONS		
0		DETAILS	PRICE
0	RAM «	N/A	-
0	Printer	TBA	-
	Monitor **	No	_
\bigcirc	Disc Drives	TBA	-
O	Other Languages Multi-user	·N/A	_
0	Capabilities	No	_
	BASIC extensions	TBA	_

OTHER ADD-ONS:

FACTFILE

SHARP MZ-80A

Sharp UK Ltd, Thorn Road, Newton Heath. Manchester M10 9BE Tel: 061-205 2333

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STANDARD PACKAGE

Memory Size (RAM) Screen Size Expansion Sockets Tape Included?
Display Unit Included?
Usable Domestic TV? Size of BASIC Average Price

25 lines of 40 characters **BUS** connector Yes Yes No 12K

MANUFACTURER'S EXPANSIONS

	MANUFACTURER'S	EXPANSIONS	
0	1-21 21 10 0 1	DETAILS	PRICE
0	RAM	No Yes	£450-800
0	Printer Monitor	N/A Yes, dual	£600
	Disc Drives Other Languages	Yes	£45
	Multi-user Capabilities	No No	-
0	BASIC extensions (Toolkits)		

£549

OTHER ADD-ONS: None Reported

SHARP MZ-80B

Sharp UK Ltd, Thorn Road, 0 Newton Heath, Manchester M10 9BE 0 0 0



STANDARD PACKAGE

0

Memory Size (RAM) Screen Size Expansion Sockets Tape Included? Display Unit Included? Usable Domestic TV? Size of BASIC Average Price	64K 25 lines of 40 or 80 characters BUS connector Yes Yes No 16K £990
---	---

MANUFACTURER'S EXPANSIONS 0

0	RAM Printer Monitor Disc Drives Other Languages Multi-user Capabilities	Yes Yes Yes N/A Yes, dual Yes	PRICE £120 £450-800 — £600 £45
	BASIC extensions	No No	_
0	(Toolkits)	110	_

OTHER ADD-ONS:

0 Multi-vision and triple-vision, Datron Micro Centre, 2 Abbeydale Road, Sheffield S7 1FD, £35-79

SHARP MZ-80K

Sharp UK Ltd. Thorn Road. Newton Heath, 0 Manchester 0 M10 9BE 0



STANDARD PACKAGE

0 Memory Size (RAM) Screen Size Expansion Sockets 0 0 Tape Included? Display Unit Included? Usable Domestic TV? 0 Size of BASIC **Average Price**

25 lines of 40 characters **BUS** connector Yes Yes No 12K £350

MANUFACTURER'S EXPANSIONS

RAM Printer Monitor Disc Drives Other Languages Multi-user Capabilities BASIC extensions (Toolkits)	DETAILS No Yes N/A Yes, dual Yes No No	£450-800 £600 £45 upwards
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OTHER ADD-ONS:

None Reported

SINCLAIR ZX 81

Sinclair Research, O 6 Kings Parade, Cambridge CB2 1SN 0

STANDARD PACKAGE 0

0 Memory Size (RAM) Screen Size Expansion Sockets 0 0 Tape Included?
Display Unit Included?
Usable Domestic TV?
Size of BASIC 0 0

Average Price

0

24 lines of 32 characters **BUS** connections No No Yes £49.95 built

MANUFACTURER'S EXPANSIONS

RAM Printer	DETAILS 16K RAM pack ZX Printer	PRICE £29.95 £59.95
Monitor Disc Drives	No No	
Other Languages Multi-user	No	-
- Canabilities	No	· -
BASIC extensions	No	_

0 OTHER ADD-ONS:

Memory expansion unit 16K or 64K, Memotech Ltd, 3 Collins St, Oxford OX4 1XL, £39.95-79; Memory Expansion 64K, Downsway Electronics (UK) Ltd, Dept M, Downsway House, Epsom Road, Ashtead, Surrey; £59.95; Key Bleep Unit, Microtronix, 3 Buxton Avenue, Coulton, Nottingham, N94 3RR, £8.85 kit, £9.95 built; Maximem 1.1, East London Robotics, Finlandia House, 14 Darwell Close, East Ham, London, EB4 BT, £93.50; Music Synthesiser + 16 line control port, William Stuart Systems Ltd, Dower House, Billicicay Road, Herongate, Brentwood, Essex CM13 3SD, £19.50; Full-size keyboard, Protos Computer Systems, Frome Computing, 20 Ashtree Road, Frome, Somerset, BA11 2SF, £64.95; 2X99 Automatic tape control, Data-cassette, 44, Shroton Street, London NW1 6UG, £59.95.

SINCLAIR ZX SPECTRUM

Sinclair Research, 6 Kings Parade, Cambridge, CB2 1SN



STANDARD PACKAGE

Memory Size (RAM)	
Screen Size	
Expansion Sockets	
Tane Included?	
Dienlay Unit Included:	
O Usable Domestic IV:	
Size of BASIC	
O Average Price	

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16-48K 24 lines of 32 characters BUS connections No Yes 10K

£125 or £175

MANUFACTURER'S EXPANSIONS

	1.21 21.0		PRICE
0		DETAILS 48K RAM for 16K	£60
0	RAM	version ZX Printer	£59.95
0	Printer	No	-
0	Monitor	ZX Microdrive	TBA
0	Disc Drives	No	
\bigcirc	Other Languages Multi-user	No	TBA
0	Capabilities	No	-
0	BASIC extensions (Toolkits)	140	

OTHER ADD-ONS: 0

Memory Expansion 32K, Downsway Electronics (UK) Ltd, Dept M, Downsway House, Epsom Road, Ashtead, Surrey: £42.50

TANDY TRS 80 I

Tandy Corporation, 12th Floor,

Tameway Tower, 0 Walsall, 0 West Midlands O WS1 1LA.

STANDARD PACKAGE

Memory Size (RAM) Screen Size 0 Expansion Sockets Tape Included?

Display Unit Included? Usable Domestic TV? Size of BASIC 0 0 0 Average Price

0

No Yes or 12K £229 or £339

4 or 16K

BUS connection

16 lines of 32 or 64 characters

MANUFACTURER'S EXPANSIONS

RAM Printer Monitor	DETAILS 32K extra in expansion unit Yes Yes	PRICE £349 £239-1200
Other Languages Multi-user	Yes Yes	£100 £369 £100
Capabilities BASIC extensions (Toolkits)	No Yes	£100

OTHER ADD-ONS: 0

Disc drives, single and dual, Cumana Ltd, 35 Walnut Tree Close, Guildford, Surrey GU1 4UN, £199-799; Olivetti disc drives single and dual, Kran Electronics, Victoria House, 17 Highcross St., Leicester LE1 4PF, £179-349; 48K internal RAM, General Northern Microcomputers, (GNOMIC) 46 Middle Street, Blackhall, Marlepool, Cleveland, £70 + VAT; 32K RAM card, Audio Computers, 87 Bournemouth Park Road, Southend on Sea, SS5 2JJ, £40 kit, £46 built. 0

TANDY TRS 80 III

Tandy Corporation,

12th Floor,

Tameway Tower, Bridge Street, Walsall,

West Midlands, O WS1 1LA



0 Memory Size (RAM) Screen Size Expansion Sockets 0 0 Tape Included? 0

Average Price

Display Unit Included? Usable Domestic TV? Size of BASIC

4-48K 16 lines of 32 or 64 characters BUS connection, parallel & serial output

No Yes No 16K

£599-1799

MANUFACTURER'S EXPANSIONS

0 DETAILS PRICE RAM 16K modules £70 0 Printer £239-1200 Yes various Monitor Disc Drives 0 Yes £600 0 Other Languages Multi-user Capabilities Yes £100 No 0 **BASIC** extensions £100 (Toolkits) 0

OTHER ADD-ONS:

Disc drives, Cumara Ltd, 35, Walnut Tree Close, Guildford, Surrey GU1 4UN, £199-799; Olivetti disc drives single and dual, Kram Electronics, Victoria House, 17, Highcross St, Leicester LE1 4PF, £179-349; 48K internal RAM, General Northern Microcomputers, (GNOMIC), 46 Middle Street, Blackhall, Hartlepool, Cleveland, £70 + VAT; 32K RAM card, Audio Computers, 87 Bournemouth Park Road, Southend on Sea, SS5 2JJ, £40 kit, £46 built.

TANDY COLOUR

Tandy Corporation,

12th Floor,

Tameway Tower, 0 Bridge Street, 0 Walsall,

West Midlands 0 WS1 1LA 0

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STANDARD PACKAGE 0

0 Memory Size (RAM) Screen Size Expansion Sockets Tape Included? 0 Display Unit Included?
Usable Domestic TV?
Size of BASIC 0 0 Average Price 0

10-32N 16 lines of 32 characters Serial output, ROM pack, joystick socket No

Yes 8-16K £499

MANUFACTURER'S EXPANSIONS

0	MANUTACION	DETAILS	PRICE
0	RAM	No Yes various	£239-1200
0	Printer Monitor	No Yes	£439
0	Disc Drives Other Languages	No	_
0	Multi-user Capabilities	No No	=
0	BASIC extensions (Toolkits)		

OTHER ADD-ONS:

Olivetti disc drives single and dual, Kram Electronics, Victoria House, 17 Highcross St., Leicester LE1 4PF, £179-349.

FACT FILE

TANGERINE MICRON

Tangerine Computer Systems Ltd,

The Science Park,

Milton Road, 0 Cambridge

0 **CB4 4BH**

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STANDARD PACKAGE

0 Memory Size (RAM) Screen Size Expansion Sockets Tape Included? Display Unit Included? Usable Domestic TV? Size of BASIC 16 lines of 32 characters Parallel & serial output, BUS connection 0 No 0 No

Vos 10K £395 Size of BASIC Average Price

MANUFACTURER'S EXPANSIONS

	Iowa was a		PRICE
0		DETAILS 48K in system rack	£144
0	RAM	No	_
-	Printer	No	TBA
	Monitor	Yes	£40
0	Disc Drives Other Languages	Yes	140
0	Multi-user	No	_
-	Capabilities	No	_
0	BASIC extensions	140	

(Toolkits)

0

0

Sound Board and Graphics Board, Bulldog Video Ltd, 52, Nash Square, Birmingham, B42 2EX, £49-£179; Toolkit, Microtanic Software, 235, Friern Road, Dulwich, London, OBD, £22.50. 0 0

TEXAS TI 99/4A

Texas Instruments, European

Consumer Division, 0

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Manton Lane, 0 **Bedford MK41 7PA** 0



0 STANDARD PACKAGE

0 Memory Size (RAM) Screen Size 0 24 lines of 32 characters **Expansion Sockets** ROM pack, Bus connector, joystick, 0 socket Tape Included? No Display Unit Included? Usable Domestic TV? Size of BASIC No Yes 14K

£199

0 0 **Average Price**

MANUFACTURER'S EXPANSIONS

0000	Multi-user	DETAILS up to 48K (max) Yes No Yes Yes Yes	PRICE £300 £275 £300 £50-£100
0	Capabilities BASIC extensions (Toolkits)	No Yes	£100

OTHER ADD-ONS:

Speech Synthesiser, Texas Instruments, £46.60; Terminal Emulator II, Texas Instruments, £37.80; RS232 Interface, Texas Instruments.

VIDEO GENIE I

Lowe Electronics. Bentley Bridge,

Chesterfield Road, Matlock,

Derbyshire, O DE4 5LE

Average Price

0

0 STANDARD PACKAGE

0 Memory Size (RAM) Screen Size Expansion Sockets 0 16 lines of 64 characters BUS connector 0 Tape Included? Yes Display Unit Included? No Usable Domestic TV? Size of BASIC

MANUFACTURER'S EXPANSIONS 0

0 DETAILS PRICE O RAM optional 48K in £200 expansion unit O Printer £210 Monitor Disc Drives Yes £69.90 Yes, single and dual £220-375 Other Languages Multi-user 0 Capabilities BASIC extensions (Toolkits) No 0

£279

0 OTHER ADD-ONS:

0 Disc drives, single and dual, Cumara Ltd, 35 Walnut Tree Close, Guildford, Surrey GUI 4UN, £199-799; Olivetti disc drives single and dual, Kram Electronics, Victoria House, 17 Higheross St, Leiscester LEI 4PF, £179-349; EG3014 Expansion box with 16K/32K RAM, Swanley Electronics, 32 Goldsel Road, Swanley, Kent BR8 8EZ, £199-213 48K Internal RAM, General Northern Microcomputers, GNOMIC, 46 Middle Street, Blackhall, Martlepool, Cleveland, £70+VAT: 32K RAM Card Audio Computer, 87 Bournmouth Park Road, Southend-on-sea, SS5 2JJ, £40 kit, £46 built. 0 0 0

VIDEO GENIE II

Lowe Electronics,

Bentley Bridge, 0 Chesterfield Road, 0

Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 5LE

STANDARD PACKAGE

0 Memory Size (RAM) Screen Size Expansion Sockets Tape Included? 0 0

Display Unit Included? Usable Domestic TV? 0 0 Size of BASIC

Average Price

16 lines of 32 or 64 characters BUS connector

No £299

MANUFACTURER'S EXPANSIONS

0 PRICE DETAILS 0 £200 optional 48K in expansion unit Yes RAM 0 £210 \$69.99 0 Yes £220-375 Yes, single and dual Monitor Disc Drives 0 No Other Languages 0 Multi-user No Capabilities BASIC extensions 0

0

(Toolkits)

0

Disc drives, single and dual, Cumana Ltd, 35, Walnut Tree Close, Guildford, Surey, Gul 4UN, £199-799; Olivetti disc drives single and dual, Kram Electronics, Victoria House, 17 Highcross St, Leicester LE1 4PF, £179-349; Electronics, 32 Goldsel EG3014 Expansion box with 16K/32K RAM, Swanley Electronics, 32 Goldsel Road, Swanley, Kent BR8 8EZ, £199-213; 48K internal RAM, General Northern Microcomputers, GNOMIC, 46 Middle Street, Blackhall, Hartlepool, Cleveland, £70 +VAT; 32K RAM Card Audio Computers, 87 Bournemouth Park Road, Southend-on-sea, SS5 2JJ, £40 kit, £46 built. 0 0 0

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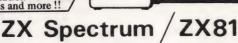
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I ENCLOSE CHEQUE/POSTAL No	

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MCVAT

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Thank You	WIN

SOFTWARE LISTING

Looking for a program to buy? Look no further! If it's available, it's listed here in our exclusive and comprehensive software checklists.

Looking through any computer magazine can be a bewildering experience if you're in search of a program. Count the hundreds of ads and thousands of titles on sale and it would be easy to lose heart!

We've tried to sort out the confusion, and the sheer numbers, to present an easily understood list for each machine. Where possible, we have eliminated duplications, so that the same tape with a different label is not listed twice. Rather it should be credited once, with as many suppliers as we could find.

Table Codes

In order to fit as many programs as possible into our pages, we have had to use codes for some columns, considerably shortening the wording.

The information given for each program is: Title, memory required to run it, company producing it,

whether tape/cartridge or disk, type and supplier and price.

The codes we have used are:

Program Type

GM = Game

BS = Business routine UT = Utility (ie. programming

aid)

DO = Domestic

ED = Educational

R = Cartridge (may include memory)

= Tape (cassette)

D = Disc (for expanded systems)

How Sold

L = Listing (sold as print-out)

Due to overwhelming response we have been forced to alternate machines included in our checklist each month. Out this month are the Atom, Texas and Vic 20. But don't panic, they will be featured in May

for you to make your software selection. Also we have had to drop the addresses from our dealer list, but don't worry, you should be able to find these addresses from adverts or back issues of PCT.

Not Here?

To companies whose products are not listed herein we can only say TELL US ABOUT IT! This applies particularly to the smaller retailer who may sell only half a dozen or so programs for one machine. If you produce software for any of the machines on the market today, then we would love to include your wares in our checklists. Send it in to us, marked for the attention of the Editor (in our format Please!) or ring Chris Palmer on 01-437 1002 as soon as possible.

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SOFTWARE LISTING

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JI	Precision Software Engineering	ĸw	NCG Ltd
JJ	Spectre Soft		
JK	Cornhill Services	KX	Broadwater Economic Simulations
JM	Morris Associates (Computing)	KY	Kent Computer Company
JN	Terminal Software	KZ	Cases Computer Simulations
JO	Mossoft Microcomputer	LA	Juniper Computer
	Software	LB	J.K. Gosden Software
JP	Romik	LC	Computersmith
JQ	David Computer Software	LD	Pro Software
JR	Creative Software		
JS	Allrian Data Services	NP	Program Direct
П	Apex Trading Ltd	NR	Foilkade
JU	TX Software	NT	Digital Fantasia
IV	Hopesoft	NU	Database Software
w	GT Software	NV	CJE Microcomputers
IX	Garland Computing	NW	Eduquest
ΙΥ	Corona Software	NX	Davansoft
IZ	MP Software & Services	NY	Square Software
ΚA	Ludinski Computer-Assisted	NZ	Salamander Software
	Learning	OA	Anirog Computers
(B	B.B.C. Publications	ОВ	Golem Ltd
(C	Miking S/W	oc	A Lane (Software)
(D	Inverse	OD	ASP Software
(E	Alan Turnbull	OE	Micromail
(F	Chromasoft	OF	Canal Computing
(G	Llamasoft	OG	Plymouth Computers
H	Superior Software	ОН	T. Smith Software
(I	Earthshock Software	OI	Oxford Computer Publishing
U	Bridge Software	OJ	Economic Software
Aissile Aiz-M		h	48K C DN £8.50 18K C OG £4.95 48K C AX,AO £6.32
	ey Climb Gm Kuma	t S /W	48K C AX,AO £6.32

Missle Defence	Gm	Sumlock	48K	C	DN	£8.50	
Missile Defence	Gm	Plymouth					
		Computers	18K	C	OG	£4.99	
Miz-Maze	Gm	Kuma	48K	C	AX.AO	£6.32	
Monkey Climb	Gm	Kuma	48K	C	AX,AO	£6.32	
Moonlander	Gm	Highlight S/W	10K	C	CC,AB	£5.75	
Mortar Attack	Gm	Kuma	48K	C		£6.32	
Munchie Men	Gm	Plymouth					
		Computers	22K	C	OG	£4.99	
Music Composer/Editor	Ed	Kuma	48K	C	AX,AC,AB	£12.00	
Multiple Regression	Ed	NCG Ltd	24K	C	KW	£65.00	
Narpex	Ed	Kuma		C	AX	£28.70	
Newton/Conservation	Ed	Kuma		C	AX	£12.00	
Number Advance	Gm	Plymouth					
		Computers	3K	C	OG	£4.99	
Oil Strike	Gin	Plymouth					
		Computers	14K	C	OG	£4.99	
Pac Man	Gm	Kuma		C	AX	£9.20	
Pascal	Ut	Sharp	48K	C	AB	£34.50	
Patience	Gm	Kuma	48K	C	AX,AO	£6.32	
Payroll	Bs	Microtek	48K	C	EQ	£65.00	
Payroll	Bs	NCG Ltd	40K	C	KW	£150.00	
Payroll 81-C	Bs	Sumlock	48K	C	DN	£74.75	
Payroll 81-D	Bs	Sumlock	48K	D	DN	£74.75	

Payroll	Bs	Tridata	48K		ID Day	£170.00	Wordprocessor LW Wordprocessor RW	Bs Bs	DCS DCS		C JQ C JQ	£10.00 £8.00
Pelmanism	Gm	Sumlock	48K 48K		DN JQ	£5.75	Utility Tape 1 — Maths		DCS		C JQ	£8.00
Physics 1	E.d	DCS	48K	C	JO	£3.00	Utility Tape 2 —	L.u	DCS	400	C 842	20.00
Physics 2	Ed	DCS	22K	C		£3.00	Maths/Physics	Ed	DCS	48K	C JQ	£8.00
Picture Count	Ed	Highlight S/W	2214	C	CC,AB	£5.75	Y Geirfa		DCS		C JQ	£3.00
Pilot	Uı	Kuma	48K	C	AX AX.AO.AB	£17.25	Zen Dos		Kuma	4K	CAX	£66.16
Poker	Gm	Kuma	48K	C	DN	£6.32 £6.50	Zen Editor Assembler	Ut	Kuma		C AX,AO,AB	£22.45
Polaris	Gm	Sumlock	48K	C	AX,AO,AB	£6.32	Zenmod	Ut	Kuma	4K	C AX,AB	£12.00
Pontoon	Gm Gm	Kuma Highlight S/W	6K	C	CC. AB	£5.75	Z-80 Disassembler	Ut	Sumlock		C DN	£12.00
Poseidon Poster Printer	Bs	DCS	48K	C	JQ	£3.00						
Princess & Monster Maze	Gm	Kuma	48K	C	AX,AB	£6.32		-				
Program Filing Index	Bs	Kuma	20K	C	AX	£6.32	ITDC OA					to substantial and
			48K			£6.32	TRS-80					the constitution and
Quadrax	Gm	Kuma	48K	C	CZ	£4.60						
Quest	Gm	J Wolstencroft	48K	C	AX,AO,AB	£6.32					Paragraph and	
Race Track	Gm Gm	Kuma	48K	C	AX AX	£6.32	A-Maz-Ing	Gm	Molimerx	4K	C AJ	£6.33
Racing Raider	Gm	Kuma Kuma	48K	C	AX,AO,AB	£6.32	Acquire	Gm	Avalon Hill	16K		£13.95
Ram Test	Ut	DCS	48K	C	JQ	£3.00	Adventure I	Gm	Adventure Int.	16K	AJ	£13.77
Reactor	Gm	Kuma	48K	C	AX,AB	£6.32	Adventure III	Gm	Adventure Int.	16K		£13.77
Reportwriter WP	Bs	David Computer			30.00	20.02	Adventure III	Gm	Adventure Int.	16K		£13.77
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Road Alignment	Bs	Canal Computing	16K		OF	£60	Adventureland	Gm	Adventure Int.	16K		£12.50
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Rocket	Ed	Kuma		C	AX	£6.32					OH	£15.25
Roulette	Gm	Sumlock	48K		DN	£6.33	Adventure Mysterious	Gm	Adventure Int.	16K	C AJ	£10.06
Scramble	Gm	Sumlock	48K		DN	£7.50	Adventure Mysterious	Gm	Adventure Int.	32K	D AJ	£13.50
Semaphore	Ed	Plymouth					Aid, Basic	Ut	J.K. Gosden S/W	16K	C LB	£9.00
		Computers	21K		OG	£4.99	Air Raid	Gm	MA	16K		£7.50
Semi Conductors I	Ed	Kuma		C	AX	£12.00	Air Traffic Control	Gm	MA	16K		£9.50
Semi Conductors II	E.d	Kuma		C	AX	£12.00	Airflight Simulation	Gm	Instant S/W	16K		£9.95
Shape Match	Gm	Kuma	48K	C	AX,AO	£6.32	Airmail Pilot	Gm	Instant S/W		C GB,AB	£8.50
Shapes	Ed	Highlight S/W	22K	С	CC,AB	£5.75	Ajedit	Bs	Molimerx	32K		£49.95
Sharp Demo	Gm	Kuma	48K	C	AX,AO	£6.32	Aladdin	Ed	Bryants S/W	16K		£3.75
Show Jumping	Gm	Kuma	48K	C	AX,FZ	£6.32	Alien Armada	Gm	Molimerx	16K	C IS	£11.50
Shudo	Gm	Kuma	48K	C	AX	£6.32					AJ	£10.06
Simon	Gm	Kuma	48K			£6.32	Alien Armada	Gm	Molimerx	32K		£13.23
Slave Interpreter	Ut	Kuma	0.011	C	AX	£16.65	Alien Attack Force	Gm	Instant S/W		C GB,AB	£8.50
Smugglers	Gm	DCS	20K	C	JQ	£3.00	Alien Attack	Gm	Kansas	16K		£9.50
Snakes and Ladders	Gm	Kuma	48K	C	AX.AO	£6.32	Alien Defence	Gm	Soft Sector Mkting	16K		£11.50
Solid State Non VAT				_	A 4.0						GB	£15.50
Accounts	Ed	Kuma		C	AX	£33.90	Alien Defence	Gm	Soft Sector Mkting			£11.95
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Sound Effects	Ut	DCS	48K	C	AX,AO,AB	£3.00	AU 7		Luctured C (III)	1612	C GB.AB	£8.50
Space Battle	Gm	Kuma	48K	C	AX,AO,AC,AB	£6.32	All Turret Gunner	Gm	Instant S/W Molimerx	32K		£18.40
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Space Mission	Om	Computers	7K	C	OG	£4.99	Angel Worms	Gm	Adventure Int.	8K	C AB	£14.35
Space Pursuit	Gm	Kuma	48K			£6.32	Animation	Ut	Molimerx	16K		£17.20
Space Rescue	Gm	Sumlock	48K	C	DN	£7.50	Animation	Ut	Molimerx	32K		£20.65
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Squash	Gm	Plymouth				21.00	Tillianora Tilliano				AJ	£10.06
Squasii	O	Computers	6K	C	OG	£4.99	Arcade Invaders	Gm	Kansas	16K	C IH	£9.50
Star Trek	Gm	Kuma	10K	C	AX,AC,AO	£6.32	Arcade Scramble	Gm	Kansas	16K		£9.50
Star Wars	Gm	DCS	20K			£3.00	Armoured Patrol	Gm	Adventure Int.	16K		£15.00
Stella Adventure	Gm	Sumlock	48K		DN	£15.50					GB	£15.00
Stock Control/Invoicing	Bs	Microtek	48K	C	EQ	£316.00	Armoured Patrol	Gm	Adventure Int.	16K		£18.99
Stock Control	Bs	NCG Ltd	36K	C	KW	£40.00	Ascertain	Ut	Kansas	16.A	C IH	£6.25
Stock Control	Bs	David Computer					Assembly Package	Ut	Molimerx		D AJ	£74.75
		Software	48K		JQ	£6.00	Asteroids	Gm	Molimerx		C AJ	£10.06
Stomper	Gm		10K	C	AX,FZ,AB	£6.32	Asteroids	Gm			D AJ	£13.50
Stomper/Minefields	Gm	Sharpsoft	20K	C	AB	£5.85	Astro Navigator	Gm	Molimerx	16K		£14.95
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Structural Analysis	Bs	Canal Computing	16K	C	OF	£60	Astronomical Calendar	Ed	Molimerx	16K		£10.93
Sundry Creditors	Bs	David Computer	48K	_	JQ	00.00	Asylum	Gm	Med Systems	16K	C IS BT	£9.50 £12.00
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Supercopy	Gm	Kuma Kuma	48K	C	AX	£6.32	Atlantian Odyssey	om	Juliu		GB.BT	£10.95
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Tank Wall	Gm	Kuma	48K	C	300000 C 4000000000000000000000000000000	£6.32						~_1.00
Tank Wall Tank Practice	Gm	DCS	48K	C	JQ	£3.00	BI Nuclear Bomber	Gm	Instant S/W	16K	C'GB	£12.50
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Tape Copier	Ut	DCS	20K	C	JQ	£4.00					ОН	£11.50
Tenpin Bowling	Gm	Kuma	48K	C	AX,AO	£6.32	BQ81	Bs	Baust Computing	48K		£79.95
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Towering Inferno	Gm	Sharpsoft	20K	C		£5.85	Back 40	Gm	Molimerx	32K		£13.50
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Towers of Hanoi	Gm	Kuma	48K	C	AX	£6.32	Backgammon	Gm	Adventure Int.	16K		£7.50
Track Layer	Gm	Kuma	48K	C	AX,CH	£6.32			**	****	AB	£7.99
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Trench Mortars	Gm	DCS	48K	C	JQ	£3.00	Bandito	Gm	Acorn	16K		£7.49
Tycoon	Gm	Kuma	48K	C		£6.32	Barricade	Gm	MA	16K	C IS C IH	7.50
Typewriter	Do	DCS	48K	C	JQ JO	£3.00	Bandit/Maze Chase	Gm	Kansas	16K	CIH	£7.50
Typing Test/Tutor	Bs	DCS	20K	C	JQ	£6.00	Banner	Ut	Kansas	16K 16K	C HW	£7.50 £9.00
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War at Sea	Gm	DCS	48K	C	JQ AY	£3.00	Basic Compiler Accel. 3	Ut	Microsoft	16K	D AJ	£49.95
Waves I	Ed	Kuma		C	AX AX	£12.00	Basic Compiler Accel. 3	Ut Ut	Microsoft Molimerx	16K	C AJ	£10.95
Waves II	Ed	Kuma	48K	C	DN	£12.00	Basic Insert Basic Insert	Ut	Molimerx	32K		£14.39
Wizards Quest Adventure	Gm	Sumlock	48K	C	AX,AC	£10.50 £45.45	Basic Insert Basic Programming System	Ut	Instant S/W	16K	C AB	£12.50
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Constellation	Ed Ed	Molimerx	16K		AJ AJ	£14.30	Edas Edit	Ut Ut	Molimerx Molimerx	32K 16K	C AJ	£53.49 £20.13
Constellation Conv/CPM	Ea Ut	Molimerx Molimerx	32K 32K		AJ AJ	£17.83 £20.70	Editor Assembler Plus	Ut	Molimerx	16K	C AJ	£24.95
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					ОН	£11.50	Debugger	Ut	Kansas	16K	CIH	£19.50
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Copsys	Ut	Molimerx	16K		AJ	£12.95	Eights Electric Accountant	Bs	Emjay Molimerx	48K	C IG D Aj	£7.00 £28:75
Corplan Cosmic Fighter	Gm Gm	Molimerx Big 5 S/W	16K	C	AJ IA	£32.79 £10.95	Electronic Breadboard	Ut	Instant S/W	16K	C GB	£39.75
Cosmic Fighter	Gm	MA	16K		is	£11.50					AB	£40.95
					OH	£11.25	Elemental Maze	Ed	Molimerx	16K	C Aj	£10.93
Cosmic Patrol	Gm	Instant S/W	16K		GB,AB	£12.50	Eliminator	Gm	Adventure Int.	16K		£15.00
Cosmic Patrol	Gm: Gm	Instant S/W	16K 8K		GB,AB IE	£16.25	Eliminator	Gm	Adventure Int.	16K	OH d AB	£15.50 £18.99
Cowboys Creole Lobster Catcher	Gm	P.C.S. Molimerx	16K			£4.25 £10.06	Emperor	Gm	Molimerx	16K	C AJ	£15.53
Cribbage Player	Gm	MA	16K			£9.50	Empire	Gm	MA	16K	C IS	£10.50
Cribbage	Gm	Molimerx	16K	С	AJ	£14.38	Empire of the Overmind	Gm	Avalon Hill	48K	C IA	£17.95
Crocodiles	Ed	Bryants S/W	16K			£3.75	Enhanced Basic	Ut Ut	Molimerx	16K 32K	C AJ	£27.60
Cross Reference Crowley Manor	Bs Gm	Molimerx MA	16K 16K		AJ IS	£8.45 £15.00	Enhanced Basic Epson Patch	Ut	Molimerx Molimerx	16K	D AJ C Aj	£31.05 £13.80
Crowley Manor Crown of CWL IMDRAS	Om	rin.	LUIN	-	.0	213.00	Epson Patch	Ut	Molimerx	32K	D Aj	£17.25
part I	Gm	Ogre	16K	С	IC	£10.00	Escape from Tramm	Gm	Adventure Int.	16K	C IS	£15.00
Crown of CWL IMDRAS								C		1000	AB	£18.99
part 2		Ogre	16K			£10.00	Everest Explorer	Gm Gm	Molimerx Kansas	16K 16K	C AJ C IH	£10.06
Crusaders Cube Hunt	Gm	Molimerx Molimerx	16K 16K		AJ AJ	£13.51 £10.35	Escape Everest Explorer	Gm	Molimerx	32K	D AJ	£7.50 £13.50
DLDIS		Instant S/W	16K			£15.50	Everyday Russian	Ed	Instant S/W	16K	C GB,AB	£8.50
					AB	£16.50	F for Freddie	Gm	Kansas		C IH	£9.50
DSM	Ut	Racet Computers	32K	D	AJ	£46.00	Facto Bingo	Ed	Bryants S/W	IDK	C HW	£3.75

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E . E. L.		D C /W		C	CO 75			A6 - 11	90W D ++	£19.55
Facto Finder Fairytale Adventure	Ed	Bryants S/W Molimerx	16K	C HW C AJ	£3.75 £10.06	Jumbo	Gm	Molimerx Bryants S/W	32K D AJ 16K C HW	£3.75
Fastgammon	Gm Gm	MA	16K 16K	C AJ C IS	£14.00	Jumbles KFS-80	Ed Ut	MA	32K D IS	£75.00
Family Tree	Do	Molimerx	32K	D AJ	£20.70	Keyboard 80	Do	MA	16K C IS	£7.50
Farmer Brown	Gm	Molimerx	16K	C AJ	£7.49	KVP	Ut	MA	16K C IS	£10.50
Fed	Ui	Molimerx	32K	D AJ	£27.60	KVP Disk	Ut	MA	16K D IS	£18.50
Fetch	Ut	Molimerx	32K	D AJ	£15.53	Keyspeed	Üt	Kansas	16K C IH	£6.25
File Handling for Cassette	Ut	Molimerx	16K	C AJ	£15.93	Kid's Gallery	Gm	Instant S/W	16K C AB	£8.50
File Handling for Disc	Ut	Molimerx	32K	D AJ	£28.75	Kid Venture I	Gm	MA	16K C IS	£12.50
Filter Package	Ut	Molimerx	32K	D AJ	£40.25	Kreigspiel II	Gm	MA	16K C IS	£10.50
Financial Analysis	Bs	Molimerx	32K	D Aj	£46.00	Kwik-key	Ut	T. Smith	serr C and	£5.25
Find it Quick	Ut	Instant S/W	16K	D GB	£39.75 £40.95		-	Software	16K C OH	£18.75
Flight Path	Gm	Instant S/W	1/1/	C GB.AB	£8.50	Label	Gm	Instant S/W	16K C GB	£20.50
Flight Plan	Ut	Molimerx		D AJ	£20.70	Labyrinth	Gm	Med Systems	16K C IA	£11.75
Flippy	Gm	MA	16K	C is	£10.50	Ladyriitii	Oili	rica Gystems	BT	£10.95
Flight Simulator	Gm	MA	16K	CIS	£20.00	Labyrinth	Gm	MA	16K C IS	£10.50
Flying Circus	Gm	Instant S/W	16K	D AB	£24.50	Laser Defence	Gm	Med Systems	16K C GB	£11.95
				GB	£25.00	Laser Defence	Gm	Med Systems	16K D GB	£14.50
Forbidden City	Gm	Fantastic S/W	16K	D IA	£24.95	LED	Ut	Molimerx	48K D AJ	£19.55
Forbidden Planet	Gm	Fantastic S/W		D IA	£24.95	Life Two	Gm	MA	16K C IS	£7.50
Forest of Mordor	Gm	Molimerx	16K	C AJ	£8.63	Little Red Riding Hood	Gm	Adventure Int.	16K C AB	£14.35
Fortran	Ut	Molimerx	32K	D AJ	£74.75	Local Call for Death	Gm	Adventure Int.	32K D AB	£18.99 £14.95
Fortress	Gm		16K	D IA	£15.50 £11.95	Lords of Karma	Gm	Avalon Hill	40K D IA	£9.50
Fortress	Gm	Soft Sector Mkting MA	16K 16K	CIA	£10.50	Lord of the Rings	Gm	Kansas	16K C 1H 16K C 1S	£9.50
Fortress Fox and Hounds	Gm Gm	Molimerx	16K		£7.48	Lost Dutchmans Gold Lunar Lander	Gm Gm	MA Adventure Int.	16K C IS	£11.50
French Vocabulary	Ed	Molimerx	16K		£17.19	Lunar Lander	Gin	Auventure int.	AB	£12.50
Frog	Gm	Adventure Int.	16K	C AB	£12.50	Lunar Lander	Gm	Adventure Int.	16K D AB	£18.99
Frog	Gm	Kansas	16K	C AJ	£7.48	Lprint	Ut	Kansas	16K C 1H	£6.25
Frogs/Logic	Gm	Kansas		CIH	£7.50	Mach 1	Ut	J.K. Gosden S/W	16K C LB	£9.00
Galatic Empire	Gm	Adventure Int.	16K		£10.50	Mach 4	Üt	J.K. Gosden S/W	16K C LB	£14.00
				AJ,AB	£9.78	Magic Paper Calculator	Do	MA	16K C IS	£9.50
						Mail File	Ut	Instant S/W	D GB	£75.25
Galatic Firebird	Gm	Kansas		C IH	£9.50	Maillist Mod III	Bs	MA	48K D IS	£55.00
Galactic Revolution	Gm	Adventure Int.	16K	C AB	£18.99	Martian Adventure	Gm	Emjay	16K C IG	£12.00
Galactic Revolution	Gm	Adventure Int.	16K		£10.50	Master Cab	Ut	Bryants S/W	16K C HW	£3.75
Galactic Trader	Gm	Adventure Int.	16K		£10.50	Master Directory	Ut	Instant S/W	16K D GB	£21.00
Galactic Trader	Gm			D AB	£18.99	Master Reversi	Ut	Instant S/W	16K D GB	£23.75 £14.35
Galaxy Invasion	Gm	Big 5 S/W	16K		£11.50 £6.50	Matchmaker	Gm	Adventure Int. Instant S/W	16K C AB	£8.50
Gamesaver	Ut Gm	J.K. Gosden S/W MA	16K		£6.50	Maths Master Maxi-Micro Manager	Ed Bs	Adventure Int	48K R AB	£84.50
Game Of Life Gammon Challenger	Gm	MA	16K 16K		£10.50	MDOC Manager	Ut	J.K. Gosden S/W	16K C LB	£7.50
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Gauntlet of Death	Gm	Programmer's				Mean Checkers	Gm	MA	16K C 1S	£11.50
		Guild	16K	C GB	£15.50	Merge	Ut	Kansas	16K C 1H	£6.25
Gauntlet of Death	Gun	Programmer's				Merge	Ut	T. Smith		
		Guild	16K	C GB	£15.50			Software	16K C OH	£7.00
G.C.E. O'Levels					00.00	Meteor Mission	Gm	Big 5 S/W	16K C IA	£10.95
Tape 1	Ed	Bryants S/W		C HW	£9.00	Meteor Mission II	Gm	MA Basis & Bayand	16K C 15	£11.50 £11.95
Tape 2	Ed	Bryants S/W	16K		£9.00	Microcosm I	Gm	Basic & Beyond	16K C IA	£19.95
Gencop	Ut	Molimerx Instant S/W	16K		£10.06 £40.95	Microcosm 2 Microcosm 3	Gm Gm	Basics & Beyond Basics & Beyond	16K C IA	£19.50
Geography Explorer	Ed Gm	Adventure Int.	16K 16K	AB C IS	£12.50	Microtype	Do	Kansas	16K C IH	£12.50
Ghost Town	Gin	Adventure int.	LUN	AB	£18.99	Midway Campaign	Gm	Avalon Hill	16K C 1A	£10.95
				ОН	£15.25	Minicrossword	Ed	MA	16K C IS	£12.50
Golfers Challenge	Gm	MA	16K	C IS	£10.50				ОН	£11.50
Golden Voyage	Gm	Adventure Int.	16K		£15.00	Minotaur	Gm	Instant S/W	16K C AB	£8.50
				AB	£18.99	Missile Attack	Gm	Adventure Int.	16K C AB	£12.50
				ОН	£15.25	Mission Impossible	Gm	Adventure Int.	16K C IS	£12.50
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Guns of Fort Defiance	Gm		32K		£12.95 14.95	Model 1 to 3	Ut Gm	Kansas Baust Computing	16K C IH 4K C HA	£7.95
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Graphit	Ui	Molimerx		D AJ	£19.55	Mountain Shoot	Gm	Adventure Int.	16K D AB	£18.99
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Home Budget Planner	Bs	Emjay	16K		£8.00	Money Box	Ed	Bryants S/W	16K C HW	£3.75
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Hyperlight Patrol	Gm		16K		£11.25				AB OH	£18.99 £15.25
ID Mailing List	Ut	Instant S/W	16K	D GB	£19.50 £20.50				Off	113.23
IRV	Ut	Instant S/W	16K	***********************************	£23.75	Newdos-80 Ver 2.0	Ut	MA	16K D IS	£110.00
IRV	Ut	Instant S/W	16K		£16.50	Newdos+	Ut	MA	16K D IS	£45.00
				AB	£20.50	Newdos + 40 Track	Ut	MA	16K D IS	£47.50
Infinite Startrek	Gm	Kansas	16K		£9.50	News 80	Bs	Baust Computing	48K D HA	POA
Inventory Control	Bs	MA	16K	C IS	£11.00	Night Flight	Gm	Instant S/W	16K C GB,AB	£8.50
Inventory Control	Bs	MA	32K		£50.00	Nominal	Bs	Tridata	48K D ID	£170.00
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Instant Calculator	Do	MA	16K		£8.50	Number Bonds	Ed Ed	Bryants S/W MA	16K C HW	£12.50
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Pontoon Pork Barrel	Gm Gm	Kansas MA	16K		£8.50 £6.50	Superscript	Ut	MA	32K	D IS	£7.50 £21.00
Punctuation	Ed	Bryants S/W	16K		£3.75	Superkeys	Ut	MA	32K	D IS	£35.00
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RSM 2 Monitor	Ut	MA	16K		£7.50 £16.00	Temple Of Apshai	Gm	MA	16K	C IS	£18.50
RSM 2D Monitor	Ut	MA		D IS	£20.00	Temple of the Sun	Gm	Instant S/W	16K	AB	£16.50
SDM	Gm	Adventure Int.		C AB	£20.12	The Count	Gm	Adventure Int.	16K	c IS	£12.50
Sales	Bs	Tridata	48K	D ID	£170.00					AB	£18.99
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6	· ·	0 6	4.636	OH	£15.25	Tiny Pascal Timser	Ed	MA MA	16K	C IS	£17.00
Scarfman	Gm	Cornsoft	16K	C IS OH	£11.50	Tiny Compiler	Uı	MA	16K	C IS	£10.50 £12.50
Scientific Calculator	Ed	MA	16K	C IS	£11.25 £14.50	Towers	Ed	Bryants S/W	16K	C HW	£3.75
Screen Print	Ut	Kansas		CIH	£6.25	Treasure Quest	Gm	Adventure Int.	16K	C AB	£14.35
Screenhold	Ut	MA		CIS	£6.00	Tunnels of Fahad	Gm	Adventure Int.	16K	C AB	£12.50
Seadragon	Gm	MA	16K	C IS	£15.00	Turret & Track	Gm	MA	16K	C IS	£7.50
Sea Wolf	Gm	Kansas		CIH	£9.50	Two Heads of the Coin Typing Teacher	Gm Ed	Adventure Int.	32K 16K	D AB C AB	£18.99
Sea Wolf	Gm	Molimerx		C AJ	£10.06	Typing Teacher Typing Tutor	Do	Instant S/W MA	16K	CIS	£8.50 £12.00
Sea Wolf Semi Conductor Theory	Gm Ed	Molimerx MA		D AJ C IS	£12.65 £9.50	Typewriter	Ut	Kansas	16K	C IH	£6.25
Showdown	Gm	Adventure Int.		C AB	£9.50 £12.50	Ultra Man	Ut	Instant S/W	16K	AB	£21.50
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Simutec	Gm	Adventure Int.	16K	C AB	£12.50	Up Periscope	Gm	MA	16K	C IS	£10.50
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Slag	Gm	Adventure Int.	16K		£10.50	Vocabulary Builder 2	Ed	MA	16K	C IS	£12.50
				AB	£14.35	Voodoo Castle	Gm	Adventure Int.	16K	C IS	£12.50
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Smartwork	Gm	Instant S/W		CIA	£8.00	Voyager	Gm	Avalon Hill	16K	C IA	£15.25
Snake Eggs Snake Castle	Gm Gm	MA Instant S /W	16K	C IS C IA	£7.50	What Next?	Gm	Baust Computing	4K	D HA	£12.95 £6.95
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Although I'm no great football fan, I really enjoyed playing this game — excellent use is made of colour and user-defined graphics. The game is very logically put together, so that the development of strategy and tactics has a real effect. For example, one of my teams got through to the fourth round of the F.A. Cup where it was beaten by a second division side. This upset morale and meant that our promotion bid failed. Perhaps I should have given up the F.A. Cup run and held some good players back — the possibilities are endless. Brian Clough had better watch out!

ZX COMPUTING FEB/MARCH 1983

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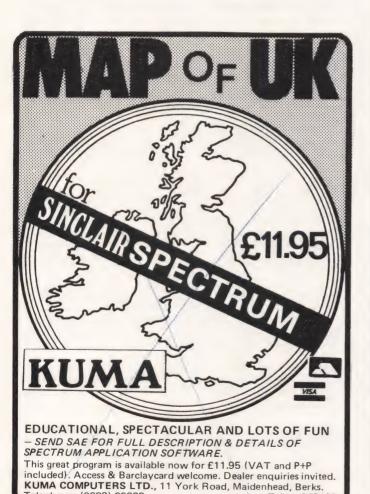
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MICROSPOT

Fed up with shooting flying saucers? Try catching falling teacups instead in Keith Hawley's Atom game.

Fancy a break? Then reach for your Atom and try this game of skill. In Teacups you have to capture the falling crockery by moving your catcher across the bottom of the screen. To move you use the SHIFT key for left and the REPT. key for right.

The program usefully demonstrates how? (POKE) can be used to address the screen and animate games. Lines 45 and 46 both use? to change the score. The whole game is driven by a FOR/NEXT loop which counts through 50 teacups. Your score is based on the number of teacups you have successfully caught, 15-20 is good score and anything above that is considered superhuman!

The game will fit into the standard Atom with 2K of memory and no floating point. To enable it to run in this memory size I have used abbreviated forms of the following commands.

P. - PRINT F. – FOR N. – NEXT E. – END

It is interesting to note that this program started life as a dodging game, the object of which was to dodge the falling bombs. However this turned out to be too easy. It seemed more of a challenge to try and catch them and this only needed a slight alteration to the program. It just shows how, when writing a game, your ideas often change.



- CLEAR0;S=0;C=0;?#E1=0
- P.\$30"(5SP) CUPS (7SP) SCORE"/ 2
- 4 K=33260;?K=255
- F.C=0T050 8
- 10 P=A.R.%32+32832
- 20 F. T=0T013; L=T*32+P
- 21 IF?#B002&64=0K=K+1;?K=255;?(K-1)
 - =192; IFK=33279K=K-1
- IF?#B001&128=0K=K-1;?K=255; 22
 - K?1=192; IFK=33248K=K+1

- ?33248=192;?33279=192
- WAIT; WAIT; WAIT
- ?L=123;?(L-32)=192 30
- IF LD33247;?L=192 35
- IFK=L P.\$7;S=S+1;?32790=S/10+48 ;?32791=8%10+48
- ?32778=C/10+48;?32779=C%10+48
- N. JE. 48

MICROTERMS

Get to grips with terminology in this month's issue dictionary. A quick reference guide to common computer jargon.

Address

A label or name (usually a binary or hexadecimal number) specifying a particular memory location.

Array

A special variable that is used to hold large amounts of string or numeric information in a row and column format.

Assembly Language

Means of representing program statements in mnemonics and conveniently handling memory addressing by use of symbolic terms.

BASIC

Beginner's All Purpose Symbolic Instruction Code. An easy to learn, widely used computer language.

Bit

A single binary digit, representing either a 'one' or a 'zero'.

Bug

An error in software.

Bute

A binary number, usually of eight bits. It can represent a number from 0 to 255 (8-bit byte) as there are 256 possible combinations of "ones" and 'zeros" eight bits long.

Cartridge

A self-contained unit storing either ROM or RAM which plugs into a computer to expand the memory or provide a program.

Character Set

The list of letters, numbers and symbols that you can use to write programs and display information.

CP/M

A standard disc operating system that in theory allows software packages to be run on different machines. It stands for Control Program for Microcomputers.

Cursor

Character or graphic symbol used by the computer to denote where it's printing. Also used as a prompt to input information or a command.

Data

Simply, information. The raw material that the computer processes.

Debug

To correct the errors in a program.

Disc

Magnetic storage device allowing fast random access to a large volume of data. A full-size hard disc will hold, say, 5 megabytes or more; a smaller floppy disc typically holds from 80 to 250 kilo bytes but in either case the capacity is being increased all the time.

Display Mode

Means of indicating the form in which the computer's output will appear on the VDU screen. It is either text only, text and graphics or graphics only. The display mode is usually represented by a number and the difference between these numbers indicates the change in the display capabilities of the screen, for instance on the BBC computer Mode O gives a higher resolution than Mode 1.

DOS

Disc Operating System. This refers to the piece of computer code that controls the action of the disc drive. On some machines this code has to be loaded into the machines memory and on others it is present in the ROM onboard the disc drive. The DOS tells the disc drive how to load and save programs on the disc as well as carrying out any disc management functions such as updating the directory.

Dummy Variable

This is a variable that is defined at the beginning of a program that has no use until later on in the program.

EPROM

Erasable Programmable Read Only Memory. When programming, writing typically takes one minute and erasing, by ultra-violet light, 10 minutes or longer.

Get

A BASIC command. It tells the computer to search the keyboard and bring back the value of the first key pressed.

Gosub

A BASIC command telling the computer to go to a subroutine within a program.

Gcol

A colour command used in BBC Basic.

Hard Copy

A computer printout or listing on paper.

Hardware

All the electronic and mechanical components making up a computer system.

Hex

Shortened version of hexadecimal, meaning '6 plus 10', which is a funny way of saying 16. It refers to the number system with a base of 16. This uses 0 to 9 and then A to F of the alphabet to represent its 16 digits. Two hex digits can be conveniently used to represent a byte (eight bits).

High Resolution

This means that you can pinpoint one dot on a screen rather than one square, giving you graphical pictures of much greater detail and accuracy.

Instruction

A set of bits which causes the CPU to carry out a particular task in a program.

Interface

Circuit which connects different parts of a system together and performs any processing of signals in order to make transfer possible (ie serial-parallel conversion).

I/O

Input/Output. A computer generally has one or more ports through which it communicates with 'the outside world'—peripheral devices such as a keyboard, video display (VDU), printer etc. An I/O port may be just an input or just an output or it can be bidirectional.

Kilo (K)

Normally means 1000, but stands for 1024 (2¹⁰) when referring to memory.

Language

A repertory of commands — symbols, expressions etc, used to 'call up' the instructions or procedures a *processor* can execute.

Location

Physical position; memory location is the same as address.

Loop

Program technique where one section of program (the loop) is performed many times over.

Machine Language (or Code)

The lowest (and most tediously detailed)

level of program instructions. All higher level coding must be converted to machine language (by compiler or interpreter) before a processor can obey it.

Memory Map

Chart showing how memory is used by a computer. The arrangement of data and program within the memory.

Menu

A set of options displayed on-screen by a computer program from which the computer user can make a selection to implement.

Modulator

A device, included in every good hobby computer, which takes the computer's output and converts it to an RF signal on a suitable TV channel, giving you a cheap, convenient visual display.

Monitor

(1) The first level of computer operating systems: the program which turns machine code commands into action, managing input, output etc.

(2) A TV-type device which is specially constructed to handle video signals from a computer that does not have a modulator.

Parallel/Serial

Denotes the manner in which the computer's output is sent to its peripheral devices. Serial means that the information is passed out one byte after another and it uses a system of special characters to signify control codes of the device. Parallel communications are sent out along a series of wires using the high or low state of the wire to indicate which bits are set and therefore making up a byte.

Pascal

A very powerful, structured computer language, available on a variety of microcomputers.

Peek

This BASIC command reads a value from a location in the computer memory. It can be used to access either RAM or ROM.

Peripheral

Device attached to a computer, eg printer, plotter, disc unit, but not necessarily essential to its use.

Pixel

The single dot that is used to create characters displayed on the VDU. Also the smallest display unit when using high resolution graphics.

Poke

This command places a value in a loca-

tion of the computer's memory. It can only be used to access RAM or control registers.

Port

Terminal which the CPU uses to communicate with the outside world.

Print At

A BASIC command telling the computer where to begin printing.

Print Out

Same as hardcopy.

Program

A set of *instructions*, which tells the computer to perform a sequence of tasks also called software.

PROM

Programmable Read Only Memory. Proms are a special form of *ROM*, which can be individually programmed by the user.

Qwerty

The traditional typewriter keyboard layout adopted by computer designers.

RAM

Random Access Memory. Data may be written to or read from any location in this type of memory.

Register

A general-purpose memory, or set of memory locations, built into the micro-processor itself. Sometimes, particular registers may be designated for a specific purpose.

RND

In BASIC this stands for RANDOM and instructs the computer to select random numbers, it is often used in games programs. Because the numbers thrown up are mathematically related to the number preceding they are called pseudo-random numbers, not true random-numbers.

ROM

Read Only Memory. Memory device which has its data content established as part of manufacture and cannot be changed.

Routine

A whole *program* or part of a program designed to perform a single function or action.

RS232

A communications interface used for modems and for serial printers.

Sequential File

This is a data file that can be created on either a disc or a cassette system. As its

name suggests, the information is stored one piece after another. If this information is to be changed or modified in any way then the whole file has to be read back into memory and then written back again once the changes have been made.

Software

The different kinds of program required to work a computer.

Source Code

Program written in one of the high-level languages and requiring compilation into machine language before use.

String

A sequence of characters used in a program.

Subroutine

A part of a *program* which performs a specific task and which is available for use elsewhere in a program, as often as you like.

Syntax

The grammar of a programming language.

Tab

Really stands for tabulate and allows you to automatically put figures and/or words into columns, forming a table.

Toolkit

Name given to a piece of code that runs in a computer independantly of any other programs and adds commands to the machines language to make the process of programming or debugging easier. Commands such as Renumber, Auto and Trace are common in toolkits. Toolkits take the form of a program that is loaded into the machine on power-up or a chip that is inserted on the circuit board which is then initialised by a SYS or USR call from the operator.

Variable

A symbol used in programming which is assigned a numeric memory address. You can change the value of variable at will to suit the program you are writing.

VDU

Visual Display Unit. Usually a TV set in hobby computers, but may be a video monitor which accepts the output directly from the computer.

Z80

Widely used microprocessor. It is used in the ZX81, Spectrum and TRS-80.

6502

Another widely used microprocessor. It is the heart of the PET, Apple and Atari computers.



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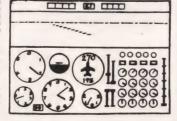
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